



MOUNTAIN BIKE TRAIL RATING DESIGNATIONS	GREEN CIRCLE (Easiest)	BLUE SQUARE (Challenging)	BLACK DIAMOND (Difficult)	DOUBLE BLACK DIAMOND (Most Difficult)
APPROPRIATE USER	Beginners and Recreational Riders. Mountain Bikes recommended. Safety equipment required (including helmets).	Intermediate Riders. Mountain Bikes required. Increased challenges and difficulty. Full safety equipment required.	Advanced/Expert Riders. Difficult and technical challenges. Full safety equipment required. High level of fitness required.	Expert Riders only. Most difficult and technical challenges. Highest risk level. Full safety equipment required. Do not bike alone. Recommend carrying a cell phone with you.
TRAIL DESCRIPTION	Gentle slopes and easily avoidable obstacles such as rocks, roots and potholes.	Challenging riding with steep slopes and/or obstacles, narrower trails with reduced traction. Requires riding experience.	Mixture of long steep climbs and descents, loose trail surfaces, numerous difficult obstacles to avoid or jump over, drop-offs and sharp corners. Some sections easier to walk than ride.	Exceptional bike control skills and balance essential to clear many challenging obstacles. Higher risk level. Only a handful of riders will enjoy these rides. Some sections easier to walk than ride.
TYPICAL TRAIL TYPE	II – III	III – IV	III – V	III - V
FEATURES	Embedded trail obstacles up to 10 cm. high.	Embedded trail obstacles up to 20 cm. high	Embedded trail obstacles may exceed 20 cm.	Same
MINIMUM WIDTH	1 metre	.5 metre	.3 metre	.3 m. or less
TRAIL SURFACE	Primarily soil and small loose rock, occasional screening.	Rough natural terrain and increased rock and root debris. TTF's (see below)	Rugged natural terrain. See TTF's below.	Same
AVERAGE GRADE	8%	10%	15%	May exceed 15%.
MAXIMUM GRADE	15%, except rock faces at 25%	Climbing – 25%, Descending – 35%, Rock Surface - 45%	Climbing – 35%	May exceed 35%
MINIMUM CURVE RADIUS	2.4 m.	1.8 m.	Sharp Corners	Same
EXPOSED NATURAL OBSTACLES (MAX. HEIGHT)	10 cm. max. height. Occasionally higher height for highly visible, easily avoidable obstacles.	20 cm. max. height	Various heights, some exceeding 20cm.	Same
BRIDGES (MIN. WIDTH)	Min. 1.0 m.	Minimum width of 50 cm. Flat decking is minimum one-half the height above surface.	Various widths. Minimum 30 cm. Flat width of decking is one-quarter the height above surface. Elevated bridges less than 3 m. high above surface.	Most difficult, exceeds Black Diamond.
TECHNICAL TRAIL FEATURES (TTF'S)	Small roots and logs to cross, embedded rocks to avoid.	TTF width to height ratio of 1:2. Small bridges (flat, wide, low and rollable from section to section). Small rollable drops. Small teeter-totters, less than 60 cm. high. Small jumps. Medium sized logs.	TTF width to height ratio of 1:4. Elevated bridges and teeter-totters with maximum deck height. Connected Bridges. Larger Jumps. Steep descents with sharp transitions.	Most difficult, exceeds Black Diamond TTF's.
ROCK FACE OR RAMP DESCENTS (MAXIMUM ANGLE)	Rock face descents not to exceed 25% grade.	45%	Not to exceed 120%	May exceed 120%
DROPS (MAX HEIGHT)	None	Drops up to 30 cm., with exit cleared of all obstacles	Drops greater than 30cm. Some mandatory air.	Mandatory air.
JUMPS (MAX HEIGHT)	None	45 cm. No jumps with consequences for lack of speed. Table top jumps max. 40 cm. high.	Table tops, no maximum height. No gap jumps.	Same, except may include gap jumps.

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