



# Outside – Buyer’s Guide

Summer 2013

Women – Mountain Biking

Featuring: Raven 6

Circulation: 686,623

Readership: 2,059,869



## MOUNTAIN BIKING <sup>6</sup>

What you need to go bigger, look better, and ride harder BY BERNE BROUDY

**1. Specialized Women's Lodown gloves \$25**  
Specialized nails it with the Lodowns: there's no padding on the palms to interfere with handlebar feel, and there's just enough protection on the backs to protect you in the event of a tumble. [specialized.com](http://specialized.com)

**2. Pearl Izumi Divide jersey \$90**  
Of the half-dozen tops we tested this year, the Divide performed the best in hot weather. A full zip in front helps you cool down quickly, while a mostly mesh back keeps sweat to a minimum underneath a pack. [pearlizumi.com](http://pearlizumi.com)

**3. Trek Lush 29 SL bike \$3,050**  
This aluminum, all-mountain, full-suspension 29er rolled over everything, essentially eliminating obstacles and instantly upping our skill. The rear shock is shorter, for a confidence-inspiring low standover height and center of gravity. Also new this year: the linkages on the Lush SL give lighter riders more leverage, so every stroke counts. [trekbikes.com](http://trekbikes.com)

**4. Shredly MTB shorts \$90**  
Waist adjusters dial in fit on these stretchy knee-length shorts. But the best part: they're flattering enough to wear off the bike, around town, all summer long. [shredly.com](http://shredly.com)

**5. Specialized Andorra helmet \$75**  
You get the best of both worlds with the Andorra: there's fuller coverage in back, yet the helmet remains light and airy all over. Long hair? You'll love Specialized's smart and comfy "hairport" fit system. [specialized.com](http://specialized.com)

**6. Smith Pivlock V2 sunglasses \$159**  
Not only are these the most stylish interchangeable performance shades we've ever tested, but they also fit and feel the best, with a three-point adjustable nosepiece and big-time peripheral vision. Tip: Get the photochromic lenses. They cost more (\$239) but are way more versatile. [smithoptics.com](http://smithoptics.com)

**7. Osprey Raven 6 pack \$109**  
For rides in the few-hour range, the Raven 6 was just the right size. And though it comes with several smart bike-specific features (retractable helmet clip, removable tool pouch), it's light enough to double as your trail-running pack. [ospreypacks.com](http://ospreypacks.com)

**8. Giro Sica shoes \$225**  
Tightly woven mesh on Giro's top-shelf women's Sica mountain-biking shoes kept debris out but let air in. They're also reinforced in all the right places, and the beefy, plate-mounted lugs should endure years of abuse. [giro.com](http://giro.com)

**7. Osprey Raven 6 pack \$109**  
For rides in the few-hour range, the Raven 6 was just the right size. And though it comes with several smart bike-specific features (retractable helmet clip, removable tool pouch), it's light enough to double as your trail-running pack. [ospreypacks.com](http://ospreypacks.com)

