

MOUNTAIN BIKE TRAIL CLASSIFICATIONS

EASY (Class 1)

	Description
Overview	<p>Easy Trails are most suitable for children, families, elderly, disabled, novices, social groups and others seeking a relatively short distance trail requiring a basic level of skill and fitness.</p> <p>Easy Trails are most likely to be fire roads or wide single tracks with a gentle grade (not exceeding 10%) and a relatively obstacle free, hardened surface.</p> <p>Easy Trails are most likely to be multi-use and frequent encounters with other users including cyclists, walkers, runners and horse riders can be expected.</p>
Elements for classification	
Corridor (Width) (Height)	(Min.) 3m (Min.) 3.7 m
Tread (Minimum Width)	1.5 m (single track)
Surface	Generally a modified, compacted surface relatively smooth and free of obstacles.
Distance	0 – 8km
Gradient	Maximum 10% Maximum sustained pitch 5% Desired gradient 0 – 10% Out slope 4% maximum
Minimum turning radius	4m
Level of skill / experience	A basic level of skill and fitness is required. Previous trail experience not essential
On-trail facilities	Facilities along the trail may include lookout platforms, seats, mounting blocks, step overs, shallow fords, barrier rails, bridges, watering points, interpretative and/or management signs.
Trailhead facilities	The trailhead will be marked with a sign, specifying the name, distance, classification, multi-use code of conduct and other relevant information. Trailhead facilities may include car parking, map dispensers, toilets, drinking water and information shelters. (Facilities will be dependent on the number of visitors using the trail or other attractions in the area.)
Recommended trail flow	Open and Flowing

* There may be circumstances where trails with a surface and slope similar to Class 1 exceed the suggested distance. These trails should be upgraded to Class 2 or 3.

MOUNTAIN BIKE TRAIL CLASSIFICATIONS



INTERMEDIATE (Class 2)

	Description
Overview	<p>Intermediate Trails are most suitable for individuals and social groups seeking a short to medium distance trail requiring a moderate level of skill and fitness.</p> <p>Intermediate Trails are most likely to be a combination single trail and/or fire road with obstacles, variable surface, and a moderate slope.</p> <p>Intermediate Trails are likely to be multi-use so encounters with other users including cyclists, walkers, runners and horse riders should be expected.</p>
Elements for classification	
Clearing (Width) (Height)	(Min.) 1.5m (Min.) 3.7m
Tread (Minimum Width)	70 cm
Surface	A variable surface is likely that may include sections of rock, sand, clay, gravel, etc. Obstacles such as rocks, logs, jumps, drop offs are likely. Shallow ford crossings
Distance	Maximum 40 km
Gradient	Maximum 15% Maximum sustained pitch 10%.
Minimum turning radius	3m
Level of skill / experience	A moderate level of fitness is required. Trail riding experience recommended.
On-trail facilities	Facilities along the trail may include lookout platforms, seats, barrier rails, bridges, watering points, interpretative and/or management signs, step overs, shallow ford crossings.
Trailhead facilities	The trailhead will be marked with a sign, specifying the name, distance, classification, multi-use code of conduct and other relevant information. Trailhead facilities may include car parking, map dispensers, toilets, drinking water and information shelters. (Facilities will be dependent on the number of visitors using the trail or other attractions in the area.)
Recommended trail flow	Open and Flowing, with short sections of Tight and Technical

* There may be circumstances where trails with a surface and gradient similar to Class 2 exceed the suggested distance. These trails should be upgraded to Class 3.

MOUNTAIN BIKE TRAIL CLASSIFICATIONS



ADVANCED (Class 3)

	Description
Overview	<p>Advanced Trails are suitable for individuals and social groups seeking a very challenging trail requiring a high level of skill, fitness and possibly endurance.</p> <p>Advanced Trails are most likely to consist of challenging single trail and/or fire road with many obstacles, variable surface, and steep sections.</p> <p>Advanced Trails may possibly be multi-use so encounters with other users possibly including cyclists, walkers, runners and horse riders should be expected.</p>
Elements for classification	
Clearing (Width) (Height)	<p>Min. 1.5m Min. 2.5m</p>
Tread (Width)	Min. 30 cm
Surface	Usually a variable surface with sections of rock, sand, clay gravel, etc. Obstacles may include challenging rocks, logs, jumps, and drop offs. Fording creeks
Distance	Advanced Trails can be any length.
Gradient	Maximum 20% (Max. sustained pitch 10%.)
Minimum turning radius	2m
Level of skill / experience	A high level of skill and fitness is required. Previous experience essential. Map reading skills and animal health and welfare knowledge is essential.
On-trail facilities	Generally facilities are not provided except in relation to specific safety or environmental considerations.
Trailhead facilities	<p>The trailhead will be marked with a sign, specifying the name, distance, classification, multi-use code of conduct and other relevant information.</p> <p>Trailhead facilities may include car parking, map dispensers, toilets, drinking water and information shelters.</p> <p>(Facilities will be dependent on the number of visitors using the trail or other attractions in the area.)</p>
Recommended trail flow	Mostly Tight and Technical with some Open and Flowing sections

MOUNTAIN BIKE TRAIL CLASSIFICATIONS



SEVERE (Class 4)

	Description
Overview	<p>Severe Trails are suitable for DH riders with dual suspension bikes who want an experience that is extreme in its nature.</p> <p>Severe Trails will be built for DH riders specifically with race events in mind, but it can be expected that these trails will be used by some members of the public outside of the race events.</p> <p>Severe Trails will be single directional for specific use. Warnings will need to deter walkers and other users from using these trails.</p> <p>Severe trails can be designed so that the impacts are greatly reduced. Proper planning and construction will ensure the excessive gradient sections of the trail are made sustainable.</p>
Elements for classification	
Clearing (Width) (Height)	Min. 1m Min. 2.5m
Tread (Width)	Min. 30cm
Surface	Highly variable surface with sections of rock, sand, clay gravel, etc. Obstacles may include challenging rocks, logs, jumps, and drop offs.
Distance	Usually less than 5km and are often measured in minutes. Trails should take at least one minute, two to four is preferable in regard to the fastest riders.
Gradient	10 – 15% sustained pitch with some sections up to 50%
Minimum turning radius	2m
Level of skill / experience	A very high level of skill and strength is required. Previous experience is essential and suspension is highly recommended.
On trail facilities	Facilities needed are access to roads for shuttle runs. These trails may require additional labour to build and extensive on going maintenance due to intensive use and steep gradients. Maintenance can be minimized by trail armouring and control measures.
Trailhead facilities	The trailhead will be marked with a sign, specifying the name, distance, classification, multi-use code of conduct (if relevant) and possibly management information. Trailhead signs should include strong warnings about the trail. Car parking may be required.
Recommended trail flow	Mostly Tight and Technical with some Open and Flowing sections