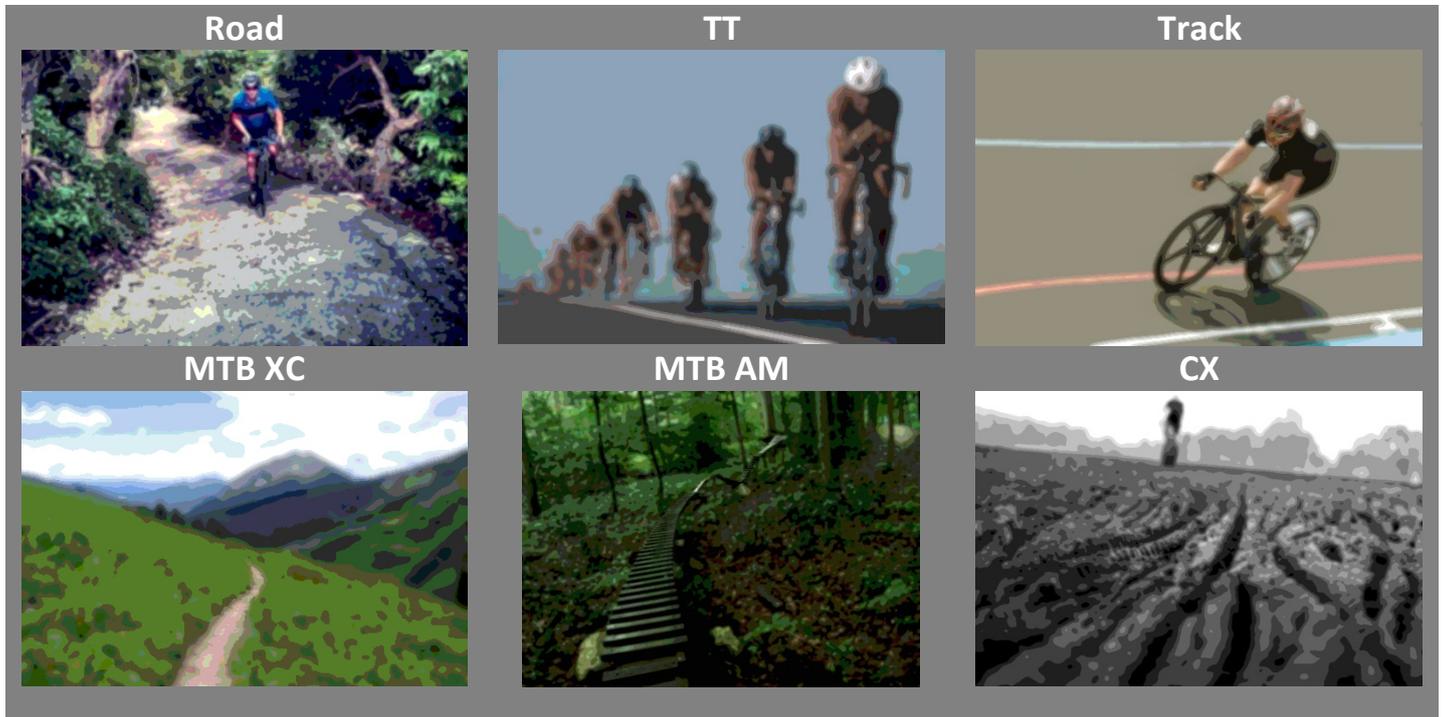




PRO-LITE

Wheel Buying Guide

The Pro-Lite philosophy is to produce a range of high quality PROfessional LITEweight bicycle equipment using the very latest technology and materials. Every single one of our wheels is hand-built to the highest standards. We are the world's largest manufacturer of hand-built racing and MTB wheels.



Choose the right tool for the job...

Depending on whether you are crossing the Alps, hitting the Velodrome or doing a weekend sportif, we have the wheels for you.

Road Cycling

Our range of road wheels contains entries good for all-round road cycling, with low profile, lightweight rims, excellent for climbing and ignoring cross-winds. Hand-built Pro-Lite wheels are some of the strongest, most responsive wheels on the market.

Road wheels include: Gavia, Bracciano, Merano, Vicenza, Verona, Garda and Como

Track Cycling

Our world-renowned carbon 5-spoke and disc wheels were born in the track, bringing home medals. The cornerstone of production is power transfer with the wheels designed to combat flex and deliver power as cleanly and efficiently as possible.

Track wheels include: Rome, Padova, Lignano, Rosa and the Vicenza

TT: Time Trials

Aero is key for TT's, criteriums and triathlons. The Pro-Lite Disc wheel uses a 2-in-1 system and comes ready to go for 11 speed Shimano/SRAM or track. The wheel can even be switched quickly and easily in a minute or two with simple tools.

TT suitable wheels include: Rome, Padova, Gavia C50T, Gavia Caliente, Bracciano C50T, Bracciano Caliente and the Vicenza series



CX: Cyclocross

Cyclocross has long been a part of Pro-Lite heritage, with one of our first teams sponsored being a cyclocross team in the UK supplied with a light 7046 frame with customized carbon stays to handle the mud and grit associated with this challenging sport. Pro-Lite was one of the first to make disc-ready CX wheels available and the third generation of Pro-Lite disc ready cyclocross wheels with trickle-down technology from our MTB lineup is currently being readied for sale. New models will be available with and without disc brakes.

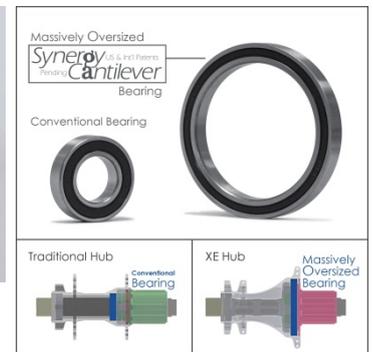


MTB: All Mountain and Cross Country

With the latest hub technology, rock-solid rims and the same Pro-Lite hand-built quality, our MTB wheels are light, fast, strong and reliable.

XC wheelsets include: Antero Carbon, Antero XC and Ignis XC and Veleta

AM wheelsets include: Antero AM, Ignis AM and Veleta



Rims



The key issue for choosing a rim is your riding style.

We have a full range of options available:

Alloy Clinchers: Full alloy rims, including flash-welded for our top quality wheels such as the Bracciano, Gavia, Antero, Ignis and more. Alloy rims are usually lower profile, but we have the unusual and highly popular 42mm full alloy aero rim. Low profile alloy rims can be extremely light and are a good choice for climbing, quick acceleration, changes in speed and direction and heavy cross-winds.

Flash-welded alloy rims on MTB wheels are easily adapted to tubeless use.

Wide-Rim Alloy Clinchers: New to the Pro-Lite range are the Wide Rim wheels. Wider rims provide a larger leading edge, with a broader contact patch for improved traction as well as improved behavior with cross-winds. Claims have been made that wide rims can also decrease rolling resistance, but this will depend on rider weight, tire pressure and tire choice.

You can try wide rims on the Merano A25W, Merano A25W-HD and Verona A25W

Carbon/Alloy Clinchers: A Monocoque aerodynamic shell is bonded to an alloy outer rim, providing great performance for TT or track use with the convenience of a clincher. Another benefit is the simplicity of an alloy braking surface.

Carbon/Alloy clinchers can be found on our Vicenza series wheels in both 50mm (front) and 90mm (rear).



Carbon Clinchers: We have spent a long time developing our carbon clinchers and they are race-proven, taking the win in a 24-hour race on their very first real world test. Special consideration has been made to the heat-handling capabilities of these rims, so they can be found on any of our “Caliente” wheels, including the Gavia Caliente, Bracciano Caliente and the new Revo Caliente. Currently available with an extremely aerodynamic 45mm profile weighing in at just over 1500 grams for a pair of Bracciano Caliente, so perfect for TT or road use without excessive cross-winds. The Padova disc wheel is also available with a carbon clincher type rim.



No glue required – because simple is good!

Carbon Tubulars: Full race wheels. Amazingly light and strong. A hair over 1.4kg total for a pair of 50mm means an extremely snappy response and exceptional aerodynamic performance. A must-have for almost any type of riding.

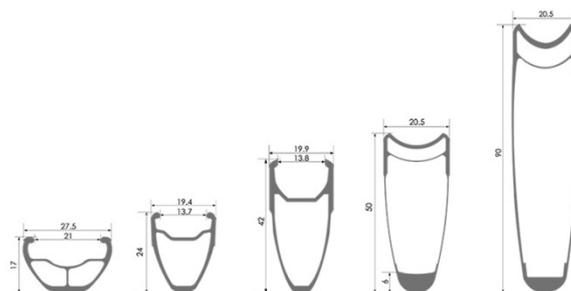


Carbon tubulars are found on the Gavia C50T, Bracciano C50T, Revo C50T, Lignano C50T (track) and Vicenza series single wheels – the Padova and Rome are also available as tubular style rims.

Does size matter?

This is one of the questions we get asked most here at Pro-Lite. The answer is simple: It’s all about application and use. You probably won’t enjoy wrestling with a pair of 90mm rims or a disc wheel on an epic 4000 meter climb, but for a Time Trial, it’s a given.

On the other hand, a light weight climbing wheel like the Bracciano or Gavia Volante for a trip across the Pyrénées will be pure perfection.



Low Profile Rims: We have a wide range of low profile alloy rims. Low profile rims are typically very light, quick to accelerate and virtually immune to cross-winds. Having a tapered trailing edge can help minimize turbulence



Mid Profile Rims: Rims ranging from 38mm to 45mm and 50mm add improved aerodynamics, especially on the trailing edge of the wheel as it rolls forwards while at the same time improving strength and rigidity. With amazingly light wheels in the 1.4kg neighborhood, wheels like the Bracciano C50T and Bracciano Caliente are light enough for racing and sprinting while giving the aerodynamic edge for sustained speeds on the flat.



High Profile Rims: Fast and flat – when you need to keep up a high speed on flat roads, aerodynamics are the most important factor. Rim heights of 90mm are common for rear wheels – especially on outdoor Time Trial and Triathlon courses. High profile rims are typically a bit heavier and a heavier rim tends to preserve momentum better on a long, flat course.



Disc Wheels: When you need the absolute best aerodynamic performance with no compromise, the only choice is a full smooth-sided disc. Although the wheel is heavier than a traditional spoked wheel, the aerodynamic benefit more than compensates for the weight penalty. With the heavier wheel comes the benefit of inertia which helps to maintain and build speed on the flats. Another benefit to a disc wheel is matchless rigidity to prevent the wheel from flexing under the powerful pedaling of a track rider. A serious contender here is the Pro-Lite Padova, which is easily one of the most rigid disc wheels money can buy.

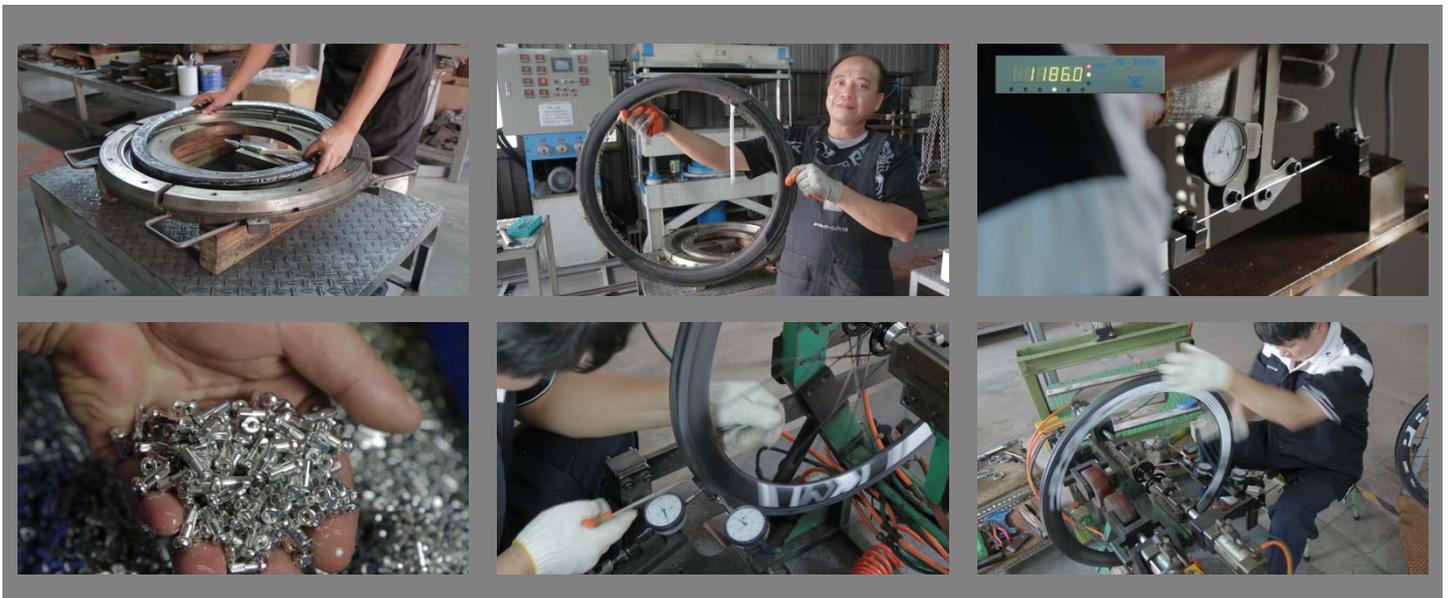


5-Spoke Wheels: A compromise between a conventional spoked wheel and a full disc, the 5-spoke is typically used for outdoor Time Trials, Triathlon and Track racing, where aerodynamic performance is the most important factor, but some cross-winds are expected. Pro-Lite's Rome 5-Spoke features a unique LEDT design born from cooperation with F1 and MotoGP designers, specifically addressing the way a wheel behaves as it rolls forward rather than simply in a wind-tunnel.



To learn more about the aerodynamics of the Rome 5-Spoke, see our white paper.

Handbuilt Wheels – The Hard Way



Born of a racing heritage spanning more than 30 years and covering most of the globe, Pro-Lite brings the vision of professional racers to a production team raised on hand-built quality. The experience that comes from hand-building thousands of wheels, frames and other parts for decades as a manufacturer goes into every product we make, from budget-friendly entry level models, right on up to the top of the line wind-slicing, world-class race products used by professional athletes all over the world.

We Know What You Want.
We Make What You Need.

