NSPCC

Advanced 100 Mile Ride Challenge

Measuring Your Effort

It's important that you cycle at the right effort level and intensity to ensure you're training to reach your full potential. Most of us think that cycling "harder is better" so we end up cycling too quickly, which can result in feeling tired, getting ill or injured. Understand what each session

is trying to achieve and how it should feel is the way to train smart. Below you'll find a guide to the sessions that you'll find mentioned in your training plan and a note of how they should feel as a 'talk test'.



Type of Ride / HR Zone	Perceived effort level (1-10)*	Heart rate	How it should feel – the talk test
Recovery Ride / 1	6-6.5	65-70%	You can speak in complete sentences, totally conversational, you're cycling relaxed, enjoying it and not worrying about the watch / pace.
Long Ride / 2	6.5-7	65-70%	You're in control, cycling fluidly and very much at a conversational level but you'll feel slightly flushed with a gradual build up of muscular fatigue.
Steady Effort Ride / 3	7-8	70-80%	You can speak in short sentences but have a slight pause on your breath. This can often be 'no man's land' in training terms if this is all you do.
Race Pace / 4	7.5 - 8	78%	You can speak in short sentences, you have a slight pause on your breath but are not out of breath, relaxed and in control.
Threshold Effort Ride / 5	8-8.5	80-85%	You could speak 4-5 words if somebody asked you a question. Your breathing is more laboured and you know you're working, we call this 'controlled discomfort'.
Speedwork / 5A	9-9.5	90-95%	You can say only 2-3 words maximum and are out of breath but still know that you could do more if you had to.

*Perceived effort =

1 represents no effort and

10 represents maximum effort



wc	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
Week 1	Bike 15 mins easy effort indoor bike Conditioning 30-45 mins strength and conditioning + stretch	Bike 50 MINS PROGRESSIVE PEDALLING SESSION @ ZONES 1-2 10 minutes warm up Recovery 5 x 4 mins at 80, 85, 90, 100, 105 rpm cadence off 1 min easy effort recovery, 10 minutes cool down + stretch NOTE: Relaxed form is more important than driving a high heart rate. It's important that the resistance is low, to allow a focus on speed of the feet and not force on the pedals. This workout is best done on an indoor trainer + stretch	Bike 15 mins easy effort indoor bike Conditioning 30 - 45 mins strength and conditioning (easy on the legs today please) + stretch	Bike 60 MINS INCLUDING 8 X 30 SEC SPRINTS 10 - 20 mins warm up zones 1 - 2, 8 x 30 second sprints with 2 mins easy recovery spin in between sprints, 10 - 20 mins cool down + stretch. Best done on an indoor trainer	Rest	Bike 120 - 150 MINS EASY EFFORT LONG RIDE @ ZONES 1 - 2 Rolling course if possible + stretch	Bike 90 MINS EASY EFFORT LONG RIDE @ ZONES 1 - 2 Rolling course if possible + stretch
Week	Bike 15 mins easy effort indoor bike Conditioning 30-45 mins strength and conditioning + stretch	Bike 50 MINS PROGRESSIVE PEDALLING SESSION @ ZONES 1-2 10 minutes warm up Recovery 5 x 4 mins at 80, 85, 90, 100, 105 rpm cadence off 1 min easy effort recovery, 10 minutes cool down + stretch	Bike 15 mins easy effort indoor bike Conditioning 30 - 45 mins strength and conditioning (easy on the legs today please) + stretch	Bike 60 MINS INCLUDING 8 X 30 SEC SPRINTS 10 - 20 mins warm up zones 1 - 2, 8 x 30 second sprints with 2 mins easy recovery spin in between sprints, 10 - 20 mins cool down + stretch. Best done on an indoor trainer	Rest	Bike 120 - 150 MINS EASY EFFORT LONG RIDE @ ZONES 1 - 2 Rolling course if possible + stretch	Bike 90 MINS EASY EFFORT LONG RIDE @ ZONES 1 - 2 Rolling course if possible + stretc
Week	Bike 15 mins easy effort indoor bike Conditioning 30-45 mins strength and conditioning + stretch	Bike 55 MINS PROGRESSIVE PEDALLING SESSION @ ZONES 1-2 10 minutes warm up Recovery 2 x 10 mins at 95 and 100 rpm cadence off 1 min easy effort recovery, 10 minutes cool down + stretch	Bike 15 mins easy effort indoor bike Conditioning 30 - 45 mins strength and conditioning (easy on the legs today please) + stretch	Bike 60 MINS INCLUDING 10 X 30 SEC SPRINTS 10 - 20 mins warm up zones 1 - 2, 10 x 30 second sprints with 2 mins easy recovery spin in between sprints, 10 - 20 mins cool down + stretch. Best done on an indoor trainer	Rest	Bike 150 MINS EASY EFFORT LONG RIDE a ZONES 1 - 2 Rolling course if possible + stretch	Bike 90 MINS RECOVERY RIDI On a flat course, keeping heart rate in Zone 1. Can be done on an indoor trainel as well + stretch
Week	Bike 15 mins easy effort indoor bike Conditioning 30-45 mins strength and conditioning + stretch	Bike 55 MINS PROGRESSIVE PEDALLING SESSION @ ZONES 1-2 10 minutes warm up Recovery 2 x 10 mins at 95 and 100 rpm cadence off 1 min easy effort recovery, 10 minutes cool down + stretch	Bike 15 mins easy effort indoor bike Conditioning 30 - 45 mins strength and conditioning (easy on the legs today please) + stretch	Bike 60 MINS INCLUDING 10 X 30 SEC SPRINTS 10 - 20 mins warm up zones 1 - 2, 10 x 30 second sprints with 2 mins easy recovery spin in between sprints, 10 - 20 mins cool down + stretch. Best done on an indoor trainer	Rest	Bike 180 MINS EASY EFFORT LONG RIDE a ZONES 1 - 2 Rolling course if possible + stretch	Bike 60 MINS RECOVERY RIDE On a flat course, keeping heart rate in Zone 1. Can be done on an indoor trainer as well + stretch

	Bike	Bike	Rest	Bike	Rest	Bike	Bike
Week 5	10 mins easy effort indoor bike Conditioning 30 - 45 mins strength and conditioning + stretch. Easier week to allow some recovery from the previous weeks of training and some	60 MINS INCLUDING 10 X 30 SEC SPRINTS 10 - 20 mins warm up zones Recovery 1 - 2, 10 x 30 second sprints with 2 mins easy recovery spin in between sprints, 10 - 20 mins cool down + stretch. Best done on an indoor trainer		60 MINS RECOVERY RIDE On a flat course, keeping heart rate in Zone 1 + stretch. Can be done on an indoor trainer as well		120 MINS EASY EFFORT LONG RIDE @ ZONES 1 - 2 Rolling course if possible + stretch	60 MINS RECOVERY RIDE On a flat course, keeping heart rate in Zone 1. Can be done on an indoor trainer as well + stretch
	training adaptation						
Week	Bike 15 mins easy effort indoor bike Conditioning 30-45 mins strength and conditioning + stretch	Bike 60 MINS 4 x 5 MIN @ THRESHOLD EFFORT ZONES 4 - 5 15 mins warm up zones Recovery 1 - 2, 4 x 5 min at hr zones 4 - 5 with 2 mins easy effort recovery between intervals, 10 - 15 mins easy effort zone 2 cool down + stretch	Bike 15 mins easy effort indoor bike Conditioning 30-45 mins strength and conditioning + stretch	Bike 60 MINS RECOVERY RIDE On a flat course, keeping heart rate in Zone 1 + stretch. Can be done on an indoor trainer as well	Rest	Bike 210 MINS EASY TO STEADY EFFORT LONG RIDE @ ZONES 1 - 3 Aim to keep your average cadence at 85 rpm / HR zone 2 and as little free wheeling as you can, 20 mins easy warm up 3 mins zone 3 at 100rpm, 5 mins zone 3 at 100rpm, 7 mins zone 3 at 100rpm, 9 mins zone 3 at 100rpm, 7 mins zone 3 at 100rpm, 5 mins zone 3 at 100rpm, 3 mins zone 3 at 100rpm all off 2 mins easy effort recovery. Ride the rest of your ride at zones 2 - 3, cool down + stretch	Bike 90 MINS EASY EFFORT LONG RIDE @ ZONES 1 - 2 Rolling course if possible + stretch
Week 7	Bike 15 mins easy effort indoor bike Conditioning 30-45 mins strength and conditioning + stretch	Bike 60 MINS 5 x 5 MIN @ THRESHOLD EFFORT ZONES 4 - 5 15 mins warm up zones Recovery 1 - 2, 5 x 5 min at hr zones 4 - 5 with 2 mins easy effort recovery between intervals, 10 - 15 mins easy effort zone 2 cool down + stretch	Bike 15 mins easy effort indoor bike Conditioning 30-45 mins strength and conditioning + stretch	Bike 60 MINS RECOVERY RIDE On a flat course, keeping heart rate in Zone 1 + stretch. Can be done on an indoor trainer as well	Rest	Bike 240 MINS EASY TO STEADY EFFORT LONG RIDE @ ZONES 1 - 3 Aim to keep your average cadence at 85 rpm / HR zone 2 and as little free wheeling as you can, 20 mins easy warm up 3 mins zone 3 at 100rpm, 5 mins zone 3 at 100rpm, 7 mins zone 3 at 100rpm, 9 mins zone 3 at 100rpm, 5 mins zone 3 at 100rpm, 5 mins zone 3 at 100rpm, 5 mins zone 3 at 100rpm, 3 mins zone 3 at 100rpm all off 2 mins easy effort recovery. Ride the rest of your ride at zones 2 - 3, cool down + stretch	Bike 90 MINS EASY EFFORT LONG RIDE @ ZONES 1 - 2 Rolling course if possible + stretch

	Bike	Bike	Bike	Bike	Rest	Bike	Bike
Week	15 mins easy effort indoor bike Conditioning 30-45 mins strength and conditioning + stretch	60 MINS 5 x 5 MIN @ THRESHOLD EFFORT ZONES 4 - 5 15 mins warm up zones Recovery 1 - 2, 5 x 5 min at hr zones 4 - 5 with 2 mins easy effort recovery between intervals, 10 - 15 mins easy effort zone 2 cool down + stretch	15 mins easy effort indoor bike Conditioning 30-45 mins strength and conditioning + stretch	60 MINS RECOVERY RIDE On a flat course, keeping heart rate in Zone 1 + stretch. Can be done on an indoor trainer as well		240 MINS EASY TO STEADY EFFORT LONG RIDE ® ZONES 1 - 3 Aim to keep your average cadence at 85 rpm / HR zone 2 and as little free wheeling as you can, 20 mins easy warm up 3 mins zone 3 at 100rpm, 5 mins zone 3 at 100rpm, 7 mins zone 3 at 100rpm, 7 mins zone 3 at 100rpm, 5 mins zone 3 at 100rpm, 9 mins zone 3 at 100rpm, 5 mins zone 3 at 100rpm, 3 mins zone 3 at 100rpm all off 2 mins easy effort recovery. Ride the rest of your ride at zones 2 - 3. cool down + stretch	90 MINS EASY EFFORT LONG RIDE @ ZONES 1 - 2 Rolling course if possible + stretch
Week	Bike 15 mins easy effort indoor bike Conditioning 30-45 mins strength and conditioning + stretch	Bike 60 MINS RECOVERY RIDE On a flat course, keeping heart rate in Zone 1 + stretch. Can be done on an indoor trainer as well	Rest	Bike 60 MINS INCLUDING 10 X 30 SEC SPRINTS 10 - 20 mins warm up zones 1 - 2, 10 x 30 second sprints with 2 mins easy recovery spin in between sprints, 10 - 20 mins cool down + stretch. Best done on an indoor trainer	Rest	Bike 120 MINS EASY RIDE No focus just easy ride time and enjoy + stretch	Rest
Week 10	Bike 15 mins easy effort indoor bike Conditioning 30-45 mins strength and conditioning + stretch	Bike 60 MINS 3 x 8 MIN @ THRESHOLD EFFORT ZONES 4 - 5 15 mins warm up zones Recovery 1 - 2, 3 x 8 min at hr zones 4 - 5 with 2 mins easy effort recovery between intervals, 10 - 15 mins easy effort zone 2 cool down + stretch	Bike 15 mins easy effort indoor bike Conditioning 30-45 mins strength and conditioning + stretch	Bike 75 MINS EASY EFFORT LONG RIDE @ ZONES 1 - 2 Rolling course if possible + stretch	Rest	Bike 270 MINS @ ZONES EASY TO HARD EFFORT 1 - 5 PLUS HILL REPEATS. 1 hour easy / steady effort zones 1 - 3 warm up, 4 x 500 metres hill sprint zone 4 - 5, easy effort pedal back down then 4 x 1 km up hill as 500 metre easy up hill, 500 metres hard up hill zone 4 - 5 with easy effort roll back down, Ride out the rest of your ride at an easy / steady effort in zones 1 - 3 + stretch	Bike 90 MINS EASY EFFORT LONG RIDE @ ZONES 1 - 2 Rolling course if possible + stretch
Week 11	Bike 15 mins easy effort indoor bike Conditioning 30-45 mins strength and conditioning + stretch	Bike 60 MINS 3 x 8 MIN @ THRESHOLD EFFORT ZONES 4 - 5 15 mins warm up zones Recovery 1 - 2, 3 x 8 min at hr zones 4 - 5 with 2 mins easy effort recovery between intervals, 10 - 15 mins easy effort zone 2 cool down + stretch	Bike 15 mins easy effort indoor bike Conditioning 30-45 mins strength and conditioning + stretch	Bike 90 MINS EASY EFFORT LONG RIDE @ ZONES 1 - 2 Rolling course if possible + stretch	Rest	Bike 270 MINS @ ZONES EASY TO HARD EFFORT 1 - 5 PLUS HILL REPEATS. 1 hour easy / steady effort zones 1 - 3 warm up, 4 x 500 metres hill sprint zone 4 - 5, easy effort pedal back down then 4 x 1 km up hill as 500 metre easy up hill, 500 metres hard up hill zone 4 - 5 with easy effort roll back down, Ride out the rest of	90 MINS EASY EFFORT LONG RIDE @ ZONES 1 - 2 Rolling course if possible + stretch

	Bike	Bike	Bike	Bike	Rest	Bike	Bike
Week 12	15 mins easy effort indoor bike Conditioning 30-45 mins strength and conditioning + stretch	60 MINS 2 x 10 MIN @ THRESHOLD EFFORT ZONES 4 - 5 15 mins warm up zones 1 - 2, 2 x 10 min at hr zones 4 - 5 with 2 mins easy effort recovery between intervals, 10 - 15 mins easy effort zone 2 cool down + stretch	15 mins easy effort indoor bike, 30 - 45 mins strength and conditioning (easy on the legs today please) + stretch	90 MINS EASY EFFORT LONG RIDE @ ZONES 1 - 2 Rolling course if possible + stretch		300 MINS @ ZONES EASY TO HARD EFFORT 1 - 5 PLUS HILL REPEATS. 1 hour easy / steady effort zones 1 - 3 warm up, 4 x 500 metres hill sprint zone 4 - 5, easy effort pedal back down then 4 x 1 km up hill as 500 metre easy up hill, 500 metres hard up hill zone 4 - 5 with easy effort roll back down, Ride out the rest of your ride at an easy / steady effort in zones 1 - 3 + stretch	75 MINS RECOVERY RIDE On a flat course, keeping heart rate in Zone 1 + stretch. Can be done on an indoo trainer as well
Week	Bike 15 mins easy effort indoor bike Conditioning 30-45 mins strength and conditioning + stretch	Bike 60 MINS INCLUDING 10 X 30 SEC SPRINTS 10 - 15 mins warm up zones 1 - 2, 10 x 30 second sprints with 2 mins easy recovery spin in between sprints, 10 mins cool down + stretch. Best done on an indoor trainer	Rest	Bike 90 MINS EASY EFFORT LONG RIDE @ ZONES 1 - 2 Rolling course if possible + stretch	Rest	Bike 120 MINS EASY RIDE No focus just easy ride time and enjoy + stretch	Rest
Week 14	Bike 15 mins easy effort indoor bike Conditioning 30-45 mins strength and conditioning + stretch	Bike 60 MINS 2 x 10 MIN @ THRESHOLD EFFORT ZONES 4 - 5 15 mins warm up zones 1 - 2, 2 x 10 min at hr zones 4 - 5 with 2 mins easy effort recovery between intervals, 10 - 15 mins easy effort zone 2 cool down + stretch	Bike 15 mins easy effort indoor bike Conditioning 30-45 mins strength and conditioning + stretch	Bike 60 MINS RECOVERY RIDE On a flat course, keeping heart rate in Zone 1 + stretch. Can be done on an indoor trainer as well	Rest	Bike 300 MINS @ ZONES EASY TO HARD EFFORT 1 - 5 PLUS HILL REPEATS. 1 hour easy / steady effort zones 1 - 3 warm up, 4 x 500 metres hill sprint zone 4 - 5, easy effort pedal back down then 4 x 1 km up hill as 500 metre easy up hill, 500 metres hard up hill zone 4 - 5 with easy effort roll back down, Ride out the rest of your ride at an easy / steady effort in zones 1 - 3 + stretch	Bike 75 MINS RECOVERY RIDE On a flat course, keeping heart rate in Zone 1 + stretch. Can be done on an indoor trainer as well
Week 15	Bike 15 mins easy effort indoor bike Conditioning 30-45 mins strength and conditioning + stretch	Bike 70 MINS 3 x 10 MIN @ THRESHOLD EFFORT ZONES 4 - 5 15 mins warm up zones 1 - 2, 3 x 10 min at hr zones 4 - 5 with 3 mins easy effort recovery between intervals, 10 - 15 mins easy effort zone 2 cool down + stretch	Rest	Bike 40 MINS RECOVERY RIDE On a flat course, keeping heart rate in Zone 1 + stretch. Can be done on an indoor trainer as well	Rest	Bike 330 MINS EASY TO HARD EFFORT © ZONES 1 - 5A COURSE RECCE Ride a course with sections similar to your challenge event. Ride hills in your route or simulate hills by utilizing bigger gears and a lower cadence. Ride in Zones 1 - 5a. The goal of this session is not to maximise your time in the higher zones + stretch	Bike 90 MINS EASY EFFORT LONG RIDE @ ZONES 1 - 2 Rolling course if possible + stretch
Week 16	Bike 15 mins easy effort indoor bike Conditioning 30-45 mins strength and conditioning + stretch	Bike 70 MINS 3 x 10 MIN @ THRESHOLD EFFORT ZONES 4 - 5 15 mins warm up zones 1 - 2, 3 x 10 min at hr zones 4 - 5 with 3 mins easy effort recovery between intervals, 10 - 15 mins easy effort zone 2 cool down + stretch	Rest	Bike 40 MINS RECOVERY RIDE On a flat course, keeping heart rate in Zone 1 + stretch. Can be done on an indoor trainer as well	Rest	Bike 330 MINS EASY TO HARD EFFORT © ZONES 1 - 5A COURSE RECCE Ride a course with sections similar to your challenge event. Ride hills in your route or simulate hills by utilizing bigger gears and a lower cadence. Ride in Zones 1 - 5a. The goal of this session is not to maximise your time in the higher zones + stretch	Bike 90 MINS EASY EFFORT LONG RIDE @ ZONES 1 - 2 Rolling course if possible + stretch

	Bike	Bike	Bike	Bike	Rest	Bike	Bike
Week 17	15 mins easy effort indoor bike Conditioning 30-45 mins strength and conditioning + stretch	90 MINS 2 x 15 MIN @ THRESHOLD EFFORT ZONES 4 - 5 15 mins warm up zones 1 - 2, 3 x 10 min at hr zones 4 - 5 with 5 mins easy effort recovery between intervals, 10 - 15 mins easy effort zone 2 cool down + stretch	60 MINS RECOVERY RIDE On a flat course, keeping heart rate in Zone 1 + stretch. Can be done on an indoor trainer as well	90 MINS EASY EFFORT LONG RIDE @ ZONES 1 - 2 Rolling course if possible + stretch		240 MINS CUSTOM RIDE Ride to how you feel within all zones. Don't spend too much time in zones 4 - 5 please + stretch	90 MINS EASY EFFORT LONG RIDE @ ZONES 1 - 2 Rolling course if possible + stretch
Week 18	Bike 15 mins easy effort indoor bike Conditioning 30-45 mins strength and conditioning + stretch	90 MINS 3 x 15 MIN @ THRESHOLD EFFORT ZONES 4 - 5 15 mins warm up zones 1 - 2, 3 x 10 min at hr zones 4 - 5 with 5 mins easy effort recovery between intervals, 10 - 15 mins easy effort zone 2 cool down + stretch	Rest	Bike 90 MINS EASY EFFORT LONG RIDE @ ZONES 1 - 2 Rolling course if possible + stretch	Rest	Bike 240 MIN CUSTOM RIDE Ride to how you feel within all zones. Don't spend too much time in zones 4 - 5 please + stretch	Bike 60 MINS EASY EFFORT LONG RIDE @ ZONES 1 - 2 Rolling course if possible + stretch
Week 19	Bike 15 mins easy effort indoor bike Conditioning 30-45 mins strength and conditioning + stretch	Rest	Bike 60 MINS 2 x 10 MIN @ THRESHOLD EFFORT ZONES 4-5 15 mins warm up zones 1-2, 2 x 10 min at hr zones 4- 5 with 2 mins easy effort recovery between intervals, 10-15 mins easy effort zone 2 cool down + stretch	Bike 30 MINS RECOVERY RIDE On a flat course, keeping heart rate in Zone 1 + stretch. Can be done on an indoor trainer as well	Rest	Bike 120 MIN RIDE @ EASY EFFORT ZONE 1-2 WITH 20 MINS @ THRESHOLD EFFORT ZONE 4 80 mins zones 1 - 2, 20 mins zone 4, 20 mins zones 1 - 2 + stretch	Bike 60 MINS EASY EFFORT LONG RIDE @ ZONES 1 - 2 Rolling course if possible + stretch
Week 20	Rest	Bike 30 MINS EASY TO STEADY EFFORT © ZONES 1 - 3 10 mins easy spin then 3 x 90 seconds at high rpm of over 105 rpm (zone 3), with 90 secs recovery between intervals, up to 10 mins cool down + strech	Rest	Bike 30 MINS EASY TO STEADY EFFORT @ ZONES 1 - 3 10 mins easy spin then 4 x 30 seconds at high rpm of over 105 rpm (zone 3), with 2 mins recovery between intervals, up to 10 mins cool down + strech	Rest	Bike 30 MINS EASY RIDE AND PRE RACE CHECK @ ZONES 1 - 2 Make sure your bike is working smoothly, check tyres, brakes and gears. Mentally relax and look forward to tomorrow + stretch	Advanced 100 Mile Ride Challenge