Thanks for spending your hard-earned money on a Surly. Seriously, we really appreciate it. You could’ve picked something else but you didn’t, and that means a lot to us. We’ve put a lot of work into making a great riding bike that you’ll enjoy for a long time.

Before you read any further take a minute and write down this frame’s serial number. If you should ever experience a problem with it, the serial number will help us get things sorted, and if your bike is ever stolen the serial number is undeniable proof that it’s yours. So take a minute, flip the bike over, and write it down. Your frame’s individual serial number is located on the underside of the bottom bracket (the part of the frame that houses the crank bearings).

SERIAL NUMBER:

The Instigator is a relatively unique bicycle. It’s a stout steel hardtail made to take a beating and come back for more. The diameters, wall thicknesses and shapes of Instigator’s tubing are unique, designed and manufactured just for this frame to optimize strength while keeping the weight reasonable. Each tube is custom-butted. Some tubes are externally tapered, or flared like a trumpet, some ovalized to add stiffness and strength without adding weight. Even the chainstay yoke at the BB shell has been carefully crafted to stay stiff while shedding any unnecessary material.

Instigator features a large diameter head tube for strength and compatibility with appropriate forks, an ISCG-05 chain guide mount, a 30.9mm I.D. seat tube compatible with dropper posts, and a straight seat tube so that you can lower your post all the way if you’re running a standard post. The frame is E.D. coated prior to its finish coat. E.D. is a process similar to anodizing, which creates a thin surface layer on the tubing. E.D. acts as a surface protectant to help keep the inside tube surfaces from corroding. Instigator also employs our Modular Dropout System, which gives you 3 options for axles and drivetrains. Run thru-axle, standard geared QR, or single speed wheels as you please. The MDS dropouts stay secure, but changing them is quick and easy.

What’s really unique about the Instigator, though, is its wheel size. It’s got clearance for 26 x 3” tires on 50mm rims. The resulting diameter is about 27.5”, so it’ll work well with a lot of forks on the market. 27.5” is popular due to its balance of traction and rotational mass, and the Instigator turns the traction up a couple notches without sacrificing much in the way of rotating inertia. You’ll want to run a 1x or 2x crank if you run tires and rims that wide. If you run a 2x, we recommend a Surly O.D. crank for best chain clearance at the tire.

⚠️ WARNING! Cycling can be dangerous. Bicycle products should be installed and serviced by a professional mechanic. Never modify your bicycle or accessories. Read and follow all product instructions and warnings including information on the manufacturer’s website. Inspect your bicycle before every ride. Always wear a helmet.

⚠️ WARNING! Before every ride, check the condition and trueness of both wheels to ensure that there is adequate clearance between the frame, fork, wheel, tire, and rim. The Instigator is not intended for use with fenders.

Additional Product and Safety Information can be found at the website: www.surlybikes.com/safety

FRAME COMPATIBILITY

Rear dropouts: Surly Modular Dropout System gives you the option of 142 x 12 thru axle (Shimano Direct Mount derailleur hanger (axle molded), 10mm QR geared, or singlespeed

Seatpost diameter: 30.9mm

Seatpost clamp diameter: 33.1mm (Surly stainless included)

Cable housing compatibility: Guides for full-length brake and derailleur housing

Headtube: 44.0mm ID

Front derailleur clamp diameter: 34.9mm

Bottom bracket shell: 73mm BB shell. Threaded standard English (1.37” x 24t), with ISCG-05 mount

Chainring clearance: Triple: 22/34/44t; Double: 26/39t. Max. single ring clearance (middle position): 36t. Max. single ring clearance (outer position): 44t. NOTE: Triple ring cranks are NOT compatible with 45mm or wider rims and 26 x 3” tires. For double ring systems we recommend a Surly O.D. crankset for best tire clearance

Tire clearance: 26 x 3.0” (See chainring clearance section for caveats)

Fork compatibility: 140mm travel suspension forks for 27.5” wheels

Brake compatibility: Disc only. 51mm I.S. caliper mounts
RETAILER: This frame sheet MUST BE provided to the end user.

INTENDED USE: ALL MOUNTAIN

CONDITION 4

Bikes designed for riding Conditions 1, 2, and 3, plus rough technical areas, moderately sized obstacles, and small jumps.

INTENDED: For trail and uphill riding. All-Mountain bicycle are: 1.) More heavy duty than cross country bikes, but less heavy duty than Freeride bikes. 2.) Lighter and more nimble than Freeride bikes. 3.) Heavier and have more suspension travel than a cross country bike, allowing them to be ridden in more difficult terrain, over larger obstacles and moderate jumps. 4.) Intermediate in suspension travel and use components that fit the intermediate intended use, and within this range are models that are more or less heavy duty. Talk to your dealer about your needs and these models.

NOT INTENDED: For use in extreme forms of jumping/riding such as hardcore mountain, Freeriding, Downhill, North Shore, Dirt Jumping, Hunting etc. No large drop offs, jumps or launches (wooden structures, dirt embankments) requiring long suspension travel or heavy duty components, and spending no time in the air landing hard and hammering through obstacles.

CARE AND MAINTENANCE

Keep your frame clean. Dirt and road grime lead to oxidation and fading of the finish, and they make it hard to do a thorough inspection. Dirt will accelerate any abrasion of the paint that comes from rubbing, such as places where the cable housing touches the frame. In extreme cases, this type of abrasion could remove frame material. When your bicycle is not being ridden, store it where it will be protected from rain, snow, sun, etc. Rain or snow may cause the metal on your frame to corrode. We recommend applying J.P. Weigle's Frame Saver to the inside of the tubes before the frame is assembled into a bike. If your bicycle was exposed to moisture during a ride, thoroughly dry the bicycle before storing it. If water got inside the frame, tilt the bicycle to drain the water. If necessary, remove the seatpost and turn the bicycle upside down. This is especially critical if there is a large amount of water inside. If water freezes inside your frame, the expansion of the ice can crack and rupture the structure.

Before storing your bicycle for an extended period of time, clean and lubricate the frame with a frame wax, polish, or protectant. Do not store the bicycle near electric motors, as ozone from motors destroys paint. Before riding the bicycle again, follow the pre-ride checklist to be certain it is in good working order.

INSPECTION

Before every ride carefully inspect your frame for signs of fatigue. If any frame part shows signs of damage or fatigue, consult your dealer or replace the frame before riding the bicycle.

WARNING—An improperly modified frame, fork, or component can cause you to lose control and fall. NEVER MODIFY YOUR FRAMESET.

WARNING—Attaching incompatible clamping devices to a fork can lead to fork breakage, causing a loss of control. If you are not sure if a device is compatible, consult your dealer.

FRAME SPECIFICATIONS:

For current frame specifications visit http://surlybikes.com/bikes/instigator_2point0

LIMITED WARRANTY:

This SURLY product is warranted against defects in materials and workmanship for three years from the date of retail purchase of the product, subject to the limitations detailed below. Save your dated receipt for proof of purchase.

This warranty does NOT cover the following:

• Normal wear and tear
• Damage to the paint, surface finish, aesthetics or appearance of the product
• Replacement of wear and tear parts
• Labor required to maintain or re-adjust the product within the bicycle assembly

This limited warranty is expressly limited to the repair or replacement of a defective product, at the option of SURLY, and is the sole remedy of the warranty. This limited warranty applies only to the original purchaser of the SURLY product and is not transferable. This warranty applies only to products purchased through an authorized dealer or distributor. In no event shall SURLY be liable for any loss, inconvenience or damage, whether direct, incidental, consequential, or otherwise resulting from breach of any express or implied warranty or condition, of merchantability, fitness for a particular purpose, or otherwise with respect to our products except as set forth herein.

This limited warranty gives the consumer specific legal rights, and those rights and other rights may vary from place to place. This limited warranty does not affect your statutory rights.

TO THE EXTENT NOT PROHIBITED BY LAW, THESE WARRANTIES ARE EXCLUSIVE AND THERE ARE NO OTHER EXPRESS OR IMPLIED WARRANTIES OR CONDITIONS INCLUDING WARRANTIES OR CONDITIONS OF MERCHANTABILITY AND FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE.