

GEAR

**It's Made of Plasma... Sorta
Nalini Polartec Thermo Jacket**



I got this thick black Nalini full zip jacket that's made from a material that feels like a wetsuit. The tag on the inside of the jacket calls it "plasmaterial." Anything that has the word plasma intrigues me so I surf to the website and find that Plasmaterial is the fourth state of the matter: the breakdown of molecules and atoms of natural gases generates an extremely high energy level comparable with that of the sun. Holy crap! It's an ecological treatment and guarantees hydrophilicity and breathability; moisture vapor transmission; drying speed; and garment hygiene. Another element to this "space-age" garment is Mantovent, which is described as offering. It offers wind protection and waterproofing thanks to its composition (100% EA) and the unique structure of its polymer. All this technology offers up the ideal jacket even if I don't have any idea of what goes into it! In the end, this jacket keeps you really warm on those cold morning rides.

Sizes: SXXXL
Color: Black
Price: \$290
Contact: albabici.com



**Keep Your Expensive Gear
Shiny And New
Velocity Wipes**

If you are a guy or gal who has kids, then you know how important it is to have a rockin' set of wipes on hand at all times. Talk amongst yourselves. Here's the topic: pretend your snazzy carbon road bike is your child. Don't you want what's best for your kid? You get the idea. Velocity Wipes are pre-saturated wipes that are easy to access, provide a powerful cleaning agent that is safe on all surfaces and are less messy than using your old "wife-beater". The degreaser is ideal for chains, cranks, and the rest of the train, while the frame and rim cleaner is suited for, well, your frame and rims. Each contains 30 towelettes and the canister contains a step-by-step of how to remove the towelette from the canister, just in case you don't have the mental capacity to do so!

Size: 30 towelettes that are 9 x 13 inches ea.
Types: Degreaser; Rim/Frame Cleaner
Price: \$20-\$25
Contact: velocitywipes.com

**Naturally Flavored Goodness
Herbalife H3O Fitness Drink**

Herbalife has been around for years it seems and their reputation for making top-level "stuff" is known the world around. The H3O provides rapid hydration, antioxidant protection and energy, according to Herbalife. Here's how they do it: electrolytes for hydration, carbs for energy (no caffeine), and antioxidants to protect you from oxidative stress. It's great for before, during or after exercise and comes with a 30-day money-back guarantee. Drop it in some water and you're set.

Sizes: 15 stick packs;
20 serving canister
Flavors: Orangeade; Lemonade
Prices: \$30 (15 stick pack);
\$30 (20 serving canister)
Contact: herbalife.com



**The Best Of Every World
Gore Phantom Windstopper Jacket**

Years ago I had a softshell jacket that did everything. It was warm, light, convertible and durable. It's long since been retired, and I have never found anything as adaptive since. Enter the Phantom by Gore. The name is fitting as it can be converted from a cool weather jacket into a short sleeve jersey in an instant by way of zipped arms. With generous pockets in the rear, a mild hip-hugging lower section coupled with warmth and wind stopping capabilities the Phantom is the ideal garment in a variety of cycling environments.

Sizes: M, L, XL
Colors: Yellow; Red; Blue; Green; Grey
Price: \$160
Contact: gorebikewear.com

**All Inclusive Package
Tifosi Ventoux**

Just because your riding glasses are \$300 doesn't mean you see better, unless I am completely off the back. The Tifosi line is solid and should be on your short list because they combine quality with affordability. The Ventoux's utilize Fototec, which means the lenses are blended with microscopic photochromes that change tint when exposed to UV rays. The frames are light and have an adjustable temple while the lenses have a glare reducer, are decentered for impact resistance and carry 100% UV protection.

Weight: 25g
Price: \$60
Contact: tifosioptics.com



**Sweet Danish Design
Reelight SL120 Lights**

I often get bagged on for trying to be green. While I attempt to recycle and conserve energy, Neil sleeps with the lights on and flushes twice. When I first saw this light, I thought "Damn the Danes!" They make cool stuff, everything from furniture to pastries, techno club beats and now lights. The SL-120 package runs off the energy that you produce while spinning the cranks/wheels, etc. Yeah, it's not a new idea, but the simple design is straight forward, easy to attach and provides a flashing red and white light. Attach to the spokes and away you go, silently and hassle-free. Ideal for those late-night bar runs or when Neil is up at 3:00 a.m. doing intervals.

Price: \$50
Contact: reelight.com

