

01 RIDE Protection

1. Bell Volt \$175

Deep channels and 22 vents keep the air flowing, but the three-way-adjustable retention system sold us on Bell's top-of-the-line road helmet. Bonus: The included visor means the Volt can double as your mountain-biking lid. bellbikelhelmets.com



2. Oakley Jawbone \$195

Lance Armstrong's preferred eye-wear during his return to racing, the new Jawbone uses a hinged frame for easy lens changes. Small bumpers inside the tops of the frame secure the smudge-free, hydrophobic lenses without distorting them. oakley.com



3. Rudy Project Slinger \$100

The Slinger isn't as breathable as more ventilated, higher-priced lids. But the one-handed dial adjuster in the back gives the helmet a secure, confident fit, making it without a doubt the most comfortable \$100 helmet we've worn. e-rudy.com



4. Tifosi Dea \$60

Thanks to hydrophilic rubber pads and swappable lenses, the Dea can handle the sweat and variable light conditions of an aggressive mountain-bike session. But the fashionista style is all about riding a cruiser to Sunday-afternoon beers. tifosioptics.com



KILLER VALLE 5

5. Giro Athlon \$130

How does Giro improve on its popular E2 cross-country race helmet? With an adjustable visor, an easier and more snug fit, and a lower profile that provides better coverage—all without increasing the weight. giro.com



6. Giro Semi Full \$129

We loved the safety-goggle-like protection and peripheral vision of the Rx-compatible Semi Full. With the clear lenses in place, we felt more confident bombing down our favorite heavily forested local singletrack. Swapping lenses is a bit awkward, though. giro.com

—JOHN BRADLEY

