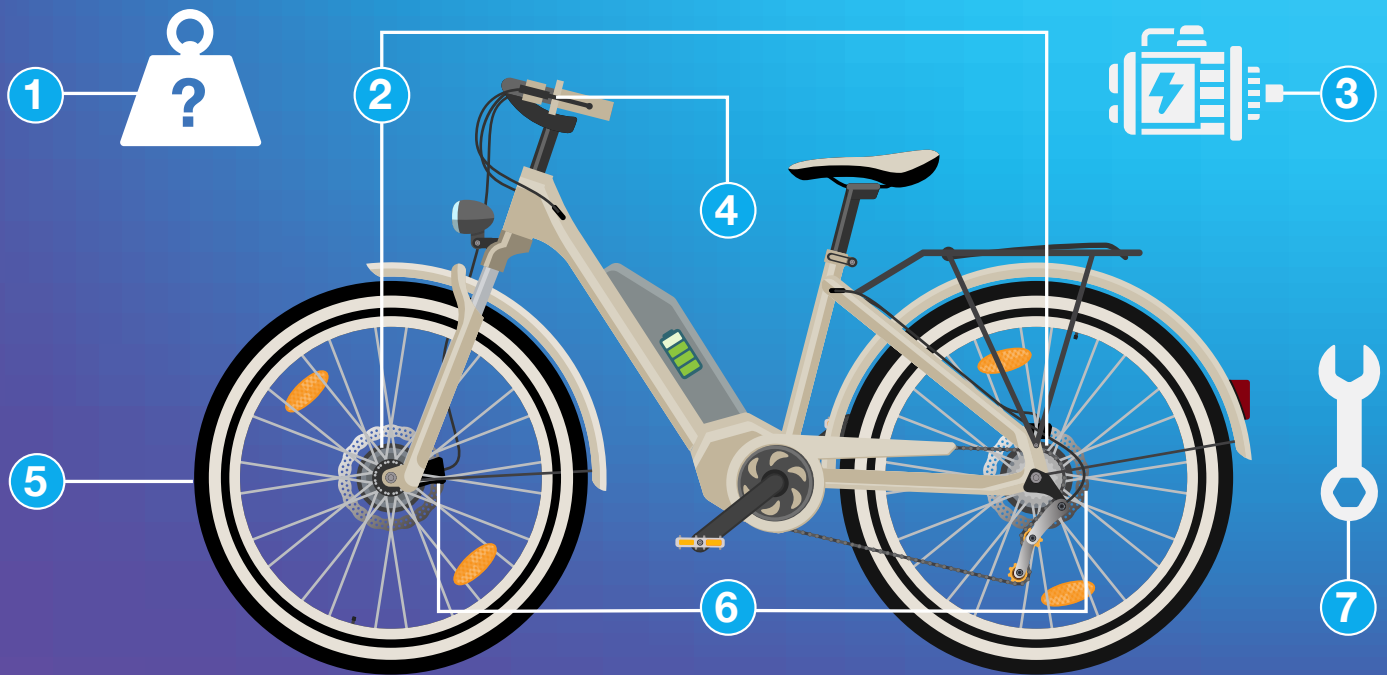


What to look for in an electric bike



Choice Magazine published a guide to buying electric bikes in June 2020. Here are some of their tips:

- 1. Weight:** Electric bikes can be heavy because of the battery. Make sure you try before you buy.
- 2. Front hub or rear motor:** A front hub motor means easier maintenance if you need to remove the wheel for a puncture. Rear hub motors can be complex for maintenance.
- 3. Motor:** Electric motors are restricted to 250W, unless it's registered and you have a licence. The higher the wattage, the more torque (take-off potential) you have from a standing start. Again, try before you buy.
- 4. Throttle:** Most electric bikes require you to pedal in order to activate the motor. If you need help taking off from a standing start, consider a throttle which can start the motor without pedalling.
- 5. Tyres:** Puncture-resistant tyres will save you from having to change as many flat tyres.
- 6. Brakes:** Hydraulic disc brakes are expensive but require less maintenance than mechanical disc brakes or V brakes.
- 7. Servicing:** Budget for around \$150 every year for servicing to make sure your hub, brakes, chain, cassette and gears last. Or do it yourself!



Live more simply

Read the full guide here:

[*https://www.choice.com.au/transport/bikes/electric/buying-guides/electric-bicycles](https://www.choice.com.au/transport/bikes/electric/buying-guides/electric-bicycles) 15 June 2020