

HOW TO: RIDE A CHUTE WITH A DROP IN IT



Continuing from last issue where we looked at riding a chute with a step in it, we are now going to tackle a chute with a drop in it, e.g, you can't roll over it (or choose NOT to roll over it).

Just as before you must have good control of your braking in order to ensure you are centered on approach and throughout the maneuver.

It works best if you compress the bike downwards into the takeoff rather than pulling up on the bars or leaning back. This will also encourage the bike to be "rising" initially when you take off which will keep your feet on the pedals if you ride flats, and/or stop you getting twisted in the air - the old "unintentional whip".

It is worth practicing your "compressions" before you try them off a 20 foot step-down... maybe at home off of a curb, or a small step onto a road. What you will find requires the most practice is the timing, so that you don't compress the bike too early and only get the front wheel over the lip, or even worse, too late and have the bike tip off the end.

Note. Make sure both ends of your suspension are compressed evenly otherwise it won't work. If you ride a hardtail make sure you are centered over your contact patches, e.g the tyres.