

# GET ONE

While the Fisher embodies all that is good about big-brand engineering and manufacturing capabilities, these more alternative alternatives deliver quality, value, style *and* orange paint. This is important, people, so listen up: They are actually available.—Mike Cushionbury



## SOULCRAFT PLOWBOY

Based on the Soulcraft Option 3 hardtail, the Plowboy is a 26-inch-wheeled singlespeed with semi-custom features. Company owner and builder Sean Walling is a stickler for how he wants Soulcrafts to handle, so basics like head- and seat-tube angles, bottom-bracket heights and chainstay lengths are “pre-designed” to maintain what is best defined as “Soulcraft consistency.” Customers choose top- and head-tube lengths to achieve the best possible fit in relation to body size; geometry is also adjusted to preferred fork travel. There are either disc-brake-ready Paragon Slider horizontal dropouts or standard Sliders for old-schoolers who eschew discs, as well as options such as frame eyelets, preferred cable routing, extra bottle-cage bosses and paint colors (our vote: classic, Soulcraft powder blue). Bikes are primarily sold frame-only, though Soulcraft does offer two complete-build models.

The traditionally designed steel frame has a sloping top tube and externally butted head tube, and the chainstays can accept tires up to 2.4 inches wide.

PRICE: **\$1,600 (frame only)** SIZES: **12, 13.5, 15.5, 17, 18.25, 19.5, 21, 23 in.** GEOMETRY: **TT length (effective): custom; ST length: custom; head angle: 71 degrees; seat angle: 73 degrees** FRAME: **“Selectron” rider-specific custom steel tubeset** INFO: [soulcraftbikes.com](http://soulcraftbikes.com)



## VOODOO WANGA ONE

Joe Murray, the '84 and '85 NORBA cross-country national champion and Mountain Bike Hall of Famer, founded VooDoo in the mid-'90s. Considered far too devilish an enterprise, VooDoo was banned from the pages of *Mountain Bike Action* magazine. Allied with Satan or not, VooDoo still spawns sensibly simple bikes. The Wanga One is the singlespeed sibling of the Wanga geared hardtail. The double-butted steel frame has VooDoo's own horizontal 20mm sliding dropouts for easy conversion from geared to singlespeed; it's also optimized for a 100mm-travel fork and can fit up to a 2.3-inch-wide tire. The frame has disc-brake tabs along with detachable cantilever bosses making it a simple-yet-effective way to get your own singlespeed up and running. It's an elegant design that makes it easy to mix and match parts or revert to a geared bike if you change your mind later.

PRICE: **\$400 (frame only)** SIZES: **14, 16, 17, 18, 19, 21 in.** GEOMETRY: **(17 in.) TT length (effective): 22.5 in; ST length: 17 in; head angle: 71 degrees; seat angle: 74 degrees** FRAME: **Reynolds 631 butted chromoly steel** INFO: [voodoocycles.net](http://voodoocycles.net)



## VASSAGO JABBER WOCKY

For its superbly priced 29er SS frame, Vassago (a bike company named for a Prince of Hell that commands 26 legions of demons) uses its own custom-drawn 4130 chromoly tubing with a special butting design and a heat-treating process. The horizontal dropouts have internal, forward-facing axle tensioners in case you want to use a traditional quick-release hub; Vassago also offers a “Gear Plug” that fits into the slotted dropout and transforms the bike into a 1x9. Vassago says the real magic lies in its geometry—a long wheelbase, steep seat tube and slack head tube. The geo, once considered extreme, is now commonplace on 29ers. While the Jabber Wocky accepts an 80mm-travel fork, Vassago touts the purity of its own rigid steel Odis fork. We say go for it, and choose Snuffleupagus Orange paint while you're at it.

PRICE: **\$479 (frame only); \$622 (matching frame and Odis fork)** SIZES: **16, 18, 20 in.** GEOMETRY: **(18 in.) TT length (effective): 24.21 in; ST length: 18 in; head angle: 71 degrees; seat angle: 73.5 degrees** FRAME: **4130 chromoly steel** INFO: [vassagocycles.com](http://vassagocycles.com)