

# epicRIDES™ TRAINING GUIDE

## HEALTH WARNING

Not all exercise programs are suitable for everyone, so please consult your physician before beginning this or any exercise program. You should always warm up for a few minutes before beginning any exercise program. You should never exercise beyond the level at which you feel comfortable. If at any time you feel that the recommended intensity is too difficult, reduce the resistance or shift to a lower gear. Take additional time to rest between sections if needed. If at any time you feel discomfort or you are exercising beyond your limit, you should slow down or discontinue the exercise immediately.

THE USER ASSUMES ALL RISKS OF INJURY IN USE OF THIS PROGRAM.



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[www.epicplanet.tv](http://www.epicplanet.tv)



[www.indoorcycleinstructor.com](http://www.indoorcycleinstructor.com)

epicRIDES

presents

# Epic Colorado - Mt. Evans

Take a virtual climb on the highest paved road in North America - 14,120 feet!



**VIRTUAL** / **REAL**  
**RIDES** / **WORKOUTS**  
for indoor cycle training

Welcome to **epicRIDES™** - Real rides, shot in real places with real riders that are virtually amazing!

This Training Guide offers you a number of physiologically based training programs created in partnership with Joey Adams, M.S. CycleOps Master Training Specialist and owner of Intelligent Fitness a human performance company.

Here is what you will find in this Training Guide:

- An explanation about our Training Zone methodology
- An explanation of the **epicRIDES™** digital dashboard
- A blank Training Ride program for you or your trainer to write in your own training program for this ride

Additionally, on our web site ([www.epicplanet.tv](http://www.epicplanet.tv)) you can also find:

- A MapMyRide.com Route Map of this epic ride with downloadable GPS data
- A way for you to nominate your own Epic Ride for consideration for filming by the epicPLANET.tv team at [www.epicplanet.tv/myride](http://www.epicplanet.tv/myride)
- A feedback form for you to share your ideas about **epicRIDES™** with us at [www.epicplanet.tv/review](http://www.epicplanet.tv/review)

Your next step is to get your indoor cycling gear on, and get ready for an epic indoor experience! So pop your DVD in, get on your indoor bike, and let's get those wheels spinning!

## **Don't Like Our Music? Then Use Your Own!**

In our **epicRIDES™** testing we have found that the choice of music for Indoor Cycle Training is very subjective and that it's virtually impossible to please everyone!

So we suggest that if our music is not for you, simply turn the volume down on the video and use your iTunes, Music Player or other digital music player software to create a your own playlist for this ride.

It's really pretty easy! Since our **epicRIDES™** is laid out in segments of five minute or multiples of five minutes, you can use your playlist creation software (such as iTunes) to organize your choice of songs for this ride; keeping in mind that you want your music for each segment to either fit or exceed the length of that segment. Then, when you ride, simply move the music ahead to the next segment's songs if your choices for the previous segment runs too long.

And with iTunes, you can even share your custom **epicRIDES™** playlist with us and other riders by creating an iMix (use your iTunes help for instructions)!

## **A Note to Indoor Cycling Instructors**

For years, indoor cycling instructors have mixed their own music selections and then blended these with a class program of their choosing to deliver exciting and motivating classes to their participants.

Now, with **epicRIDES™**, indoor cycling instructors can bring a new dimension to their classes - the video dimension! **epicRIDES™** are designed to complement you, the Instructor. So now you can take your class far outside your studio to real and exciting places, riding along with real riders on a challenging route.

As an indoor cycling instructor, we suggest you use this Training Guide as a starting place in making this **epicRIDES™** "your own." Here are the steps:

1. Ride to this **epicRIDES™** yourself before using it in a class.
2. Choose to use our music or create your own mix.
3. Review our various workouts in this Training Guide and either use them as they are, adapt one as you see fit or invent your own!
4. Finally develop your own individual strategy to use to present and lead this ride.

If you believe, like we do, that using real road riding situations in Indoor Cycling Classes is a great new way to motivate, energize and excite your class, then you can be sure to deliver a compelling **epicRIDES™** class time after time.



## About epicRIDES™ Training Zones

Indoors versus outdoors. Outdoors versus indoors, each type of training has advantages over the other. Yet, they both have the same training zones in common. What is a training zone, and why is it important?

First, let's start with the big advantage that indoors has over outdoors – one can easily argue it is the smooth “road” of the inside. When you are riding outside there are many variables, you work with and against wind, terrain, and a host of environmental, physiological and psychological factors. Inside you can control the environment and the terrain – thus, you can more readily work in specific training zones via the elimination of extraneous factors. Indoor training ensures your body is getting the prescribed stimulus of a specific training session. In contrast to the varying stimuli often created when the ride is outside.

Often we will ask athletes that we coach to ride inside for certain workouts to maximize the “dosage” of their workout. Each of the training zones is like a dose of medicine – the dosage creates a specific response in the body and thus a specific adaptation. So, the first thing that is essential is having the right dose dialed in – this dosage can be identified through the CycleOps Power Test (<http://www.saris.com/t-CPTC.aspx?skinid=2>). After you have completed your test you now have your zones (dosages) ready for your training plan. Your training plan (daily, weekly, monthly and annually that you or your coach created as a roadmap towards your goals) will identify for you when and how you need to exercise to create

the optimal adaptation of your physiology with the most efficient use of your time. Without a plan you are just working out – with a plan you build your strengths and improve on your weaknesses. Each training zone creates specific adaptations and each training zone fits into a larger whole. **The table on the next page highlights some of the key elements of each zone.** But keep in mind the body is in a constant state of flux and is always “blending” systems and hence, fiber type recruitment depending on fitness, neuromuscular pathways, bike fit and a host of other factors – thus, the following is offered as a generalization of the complexity of the body's intricacies.

Think of each zone as a building block for the next zone. As you build your physiology from the bottom up (Zone 1 to Zone 5), you are creating a stronger you. Each zone is dependent on the strength of the zones below it. Thus, the anaerobic system is dependent upon the strength of the aerobic system. The longer you can rely on the strength of Zone 1, the less you will have to rely on the limited capacity of the anaerobic system in Z5. The more wattage you can get out of Z1 the more energy you get at less cost to the body. It is just like driving your car in these days of high cost petroleum. By having an efficient and strong aerobic system you get more power at less cost – kind of like a “green” ride. As your threshold increases you will notice that your wattage output in each training zone increases! We all want more power at less cost... using training zones within a periodized training plan is the way to get more power out of less effort!

## About Mark Peterson

Mark is a retired Naval Pilot turned bicycle racer & Instructor who now teaches at four clubs around Charlotte, NC.



Mark has raced for more than 30 years in USCF, Road Race, Crits, Time Trials, and Triathlon events. He got involved with indoor cycling in the early 80's as a means to continue training during the winter months in the upper midwest. Mark became a cycle instructor about three years ago and now teach classes in several different studios on the Keiser, Schwinn AC PRO and CompuTrainer bikes.

A big proponent of using Virtual Cycling videos in class, Mark tries to do three or four video classes a month. He thinks **epicRIDES** have a nice balance of first position, third position and scenery to enable his classes to see where they are riding. He also likes the Digital Dashboard which he feels provides great structure to the ride. Mark does these rides over and over and by changing the playlist, cadence and intensity to make up completely different ride experiences.

Mark's classes love virtual rides and it's usually a wait list to get a bike!

Training Zone	% of Threshold Power	Approx. % of Maximal HR*	Rating of Perceived Exertion 1-10 Scale	Primary Energy System	Primary Muscle Fibers	Primary Fuel	Benefits
<b>5</b>	Max effort	Maximum	10 Very Hard	Anaerobic	Fast Twitch IIa and IIb	Carbohydrate/ Creatine Phosphate	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>increases high energy phosphate stores (ATP/PCr)</li> <li>Increases neurological recruitment</li> </ul>
<b>4</b>	100 - 120% TP	>85%	8 - 9 Hard	Anaerobic	Fast Twitch IIa	Carbohydrate	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>improves lactate clearance</li> <li>develops speed</li> <li>develops power</li> <li>elevates anaerobic capacity</li> <li>hypertrophy of fast twitch fibers</li> <li>increases anaerobic capacity</li> <li>increases VO2</li> </ul>
<b>3</b>	85 - 100% TP	80 - 85%	5 - 7 Moderate to Hard	Aerobic and Anaerobic	Fast Twitch IIa	Carbohydrate	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>increases oxidative/glycolytic enzymes</li> <li>elevates lactate threshold</li> <li>develops strength</li> <li>increases blood buffering of lactate</li> </ul>
<b>2</b>	60 - 85% TP	65 - 80%	3 - 4 Moderate	Aerobic	Slow Twitch	Fat	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>body fat/weight loss</li> <li>skill/technique development</li> <li>improves economy of movement</li> <li>increases capillary density</li> <li>increases oxidative enzymes</li> <li>slow twitch development</li> <li>connective tissue development</li> <li>increases stroke volume/maximal cardiac output</li> <li>increases muscle fuel storage</li> <li>builds muscular endurance and stamina</li> <li>increases blood volume</li> </ul>
<b>1</b>	Up to 60% TP	Up to 65%	1 to 2 – Easy	Aerobic	Slow Twitch	Fat	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>removal of metabolic waste</li> <li>regeneration between intervals</li> <li>recovery after hard training</li> <li>rest during injury or illness</li> <li>warm up or cool down</li> <li>no muscular fatigue</li> </ul>

\*Fitness level, stroke volume, and a plethora of other factors effect heart rate and heart rate zones – see The Heartbeat of Power at <http://www.saris.com> for a more detailed explanation.

**Training Activity**



**Training Zone**

**Average Grade**  
(for segment)

**Terrain Profile**

**Current Ride Position**

**Ride Timer**

## TRAINING GOAL: Fast Group Ride (Beginner)

Segment	Time	Training Activity	Avg. Grade	TZ	RPM	Action
1	00:00 - 05:00	Warm-Up	+2%	1-2	80-100	Spin the legs up (80-100 RPM) at an endurance pace, adding resistance each minute. The last two minutes of the warm up do some accelerations adding 10 RPM for 30 seconds out of the saddle and then 30 seconds easy back in the saddle. Get ready to tackle the highest paved road in North America climbing to over 14000 feet!
2	05:00 - 30:00	Climb	+6%	2-3	90+	The climbing begins quickly averaging 6% increasing to 10% through most of the switchbacks so pace yourself lots of climbing ahead. Start the climb holding 90RPM, every two minutes accelerate 10RPM for 30 seconds and then back on pace. Complete the interval 5 times (2X5), recover for two minutes and repeat (2X5).
3	30:00 - 55:00	Climb	+7%	3-4	70-90	Start the segment at 90 RPM and break it into 3 intervals of 8 minutes with 2 minutes recovery between intervals. Every 8 minutes add a gear/resistance and reduce cadence by 10 RPM (90-80-70). There is a short downhill at the end of this segment use it to recover for 2 minutes.
4	55:00 - 1:25:00	High Altitude Climb	+2%	4-5	80-100	Push to the Top, over 2000 feet of climbing ahead in this segment. You are now above the tree line over 12000 feet still climbing with 25% less oxygen. Break this segment into six five minute intervals (6x5 minute intervals). The first three minutes of the interval hold 80 RPM adding a gear/resistance each minute. The last two minutes of the interval increase your cadence 90-100 RPM and reduce your load. Continue these intervals to the Top with an all out assault (everything you have left) for the last two minutes.

Disclaimer: Prior to embarking on any fitness program please consult with your physician. Remember, the following are recommended as guidelines. Always think safety first. Each of the following is designed to create a distinct training adaptation.

## TRAINING GOAL: Fast Group Ride (Intermediate)

Segment	Time	Training Activity	Avg. Grade	TZ	RPM	Action
1	00:00 - 05:00	Warm-Up	+2%	1-2	80-100	Spin the legs up (80-100 RPM) at an endurance pace, adding resistance each minute. The last two minutes of the warm up do some accelerations adding 10 RPM for 30 seconds out of the saddle and then 30 seconds easy back in the saddle. Get ready to tackle the highest paved road in North America climbing to over 14000 feet!
2	05:00 - 30:00	Climb	+6%	2-3	90+	Start this segment holding 90 RPM. Pace yourself lots of climbing ahead! Every three minutes add 10 RPM for 30 seconds and repeat four times (3X4). Recover for one minute and repeat the (3X4) set with accelerations.
3	30:00 - 55:00	Climb	+7%	3-4	70-90	Break this segment into three nine minute intervals with one minute recovery between intervals. Every nine minutes add a gear/resistance and reduce your cadence by 10 RPM (90-80-70). There is a short downhill at the end of this segment use it to recover for 2 minutes.
4	55:00 - 1:25:00	High Altitude Climb	+2%	4-5	80-100	Push to the Top, over 2000 feet of climbing ahead in this segment. You are now above the tree line over 12000 feet still climbing with 25% less oxygen. Break this segment into six five minute intervals (6x5 minute intervals). The first four minutes of the interval hold 80 RPM adding a gear/resistance each minute. The last minute of the interval increase your cadence 90-100 RPM and reduce your load. Continue these intervals to the Top with an all out assault (everything you have left) for the last minute.

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## TRAINING GOAL: Racing (Advanced)

Segment	Time	Training Activity	Avg. Grade	TZ	RPM	Action
1	00:00 - 05:00	Warm-Up	+2%	1-2	80-100	Spin the legs up (80-100 RPM) at an endurance pace, adding resistance each minute. The last two minutes of the warm up do some accelerations adding 10 RPM for 30 seconds out of the saddle and then 30 seconds easy back in the saddle. Get ready to tackle the highest paved road in North America climbing to over 14000 feet!
2	05:00 - 30:00	Climb	+6%	2-3	90+	Start this segment holding 90 RPM. Pace yourself lots of climbing ahead! Every two minutes add 10 RPM for one minute and repeat three times breaking this segment into five six minute intervals. Each interval add a gear/resistance until you reach your Functional Threshold Power or can't hold your cadence goals then back off and hold your cadence. Don't overshoot still lots of climbing ahead!
3	30:00 - 55:00	Climb	+7%	3-4	70-90	Break this segment into three ten minute intervals (3X10) Every ten minutes add a gear/resistance and reduce your cadence by 10 RPM (90-80-70). Short downhill at the end of this segment, recover for 2 minutes!
4	55:00 - 1:25:00	High Altitude Climb	+2%	4-5	80-100	Push to the Top, over 2000 feet of climbing ahead in this segment. You are now above the tree line over 12000 feet still climbing with 25% less oxygen. Break this segment into five minute intervals. Every five minutes increase RPM by 10 for one minute. Continue these intervals to the Top with an all out assault (everything you have left) for the last two minutes)

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# Epic Colorado - Mt. Evans Training Ride

This blank page is for you or your trainer to write in your own **epicRIDES™** training plan.

## TRAINING GOAL:

Segment	Time	Training Activity	Avg. Grade	TZ	RPM	Action
1	00:00 - 05:00	Warm-Up	+2%	1-2		
2	05:00 - 30:00	Climb	+6%	2-3		
3	30:00 - 55:00	Climb	+7%	3-4		
4	55:00 - 1:25:00	High Altitude Climb	+2%	4-5		

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