

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

 **ICI/PRO**
INDOOR CYCLING 2.0
www.indoorcyclinginstructor.com

epicRIDES



presents

Epic Red Wing

Take a virtual tandem training ride with John and Amy Macgowan of the internationally renowned IndoorCycleInstructor.com.

Ride along the scenic banks of the Mississippi River and Lake Pepin separating Minnesota and Wisconsin.

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) 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
- A feedback form for you to share your ideas about **epicRIDES™** with us at 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 John Macgowan

John Macgowan is known as the Host of the Indoor Cycle Instructor Podcast, the number one independent recourse for Indoor Cycling Instructors around the world.



John's career as an Indoor Cycling Instructor began in the late 90's when his wife Amy (best known as the Senior Instructor at www.indoorcycleinstructor.com) returned home and announced “John, I think I have found a group fitness class that you will actually be able to participate in and enjoy.” Amy had just completed her Spinning® certification and recognized that these new “Spinning® classes” may appeal to her very uncoordinated husband. She was right. This new “Spinning®” thing really fit into his winter training plans, while he attempted (maybe pretended is a better word) to compete as a competitive cyclist. His responsibilities as a father of two girls (Abby and Carly), a demanding job, a torn biceps tendon and his 40th birthday derailed any shot at the Tour de France. Now he is content to lead group rides, with Amy as his Stoker, on their tandem bicycle around the lakes of Minnesota.

John holds certifications through multiple Indoor Cycling organizations and teaches regularly at two Life Time Fitness clubs in Minneapolis.



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

*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.



The dashboard features several data points and visualizations:

- Training Activity:** A red digital display showing "CLIMB".
- Climb Timer:** A red digital display showing "CLIMB 00:07:44".
- Training Zone:** A digital display showing "3-4 TZ".
- Average Grade (for segment):** A digital display showing "+7% AV GR".
- Terrain Profile:** A line graph showing the elevation profile of the segment, with a red line indicating the current ride position.
- Current Ride Position:** A vertical line on the terrain profile graph indicating the cyclist's current location.
- Ride Timer:** A digital display showing "00:51:29".

TRAINING GOAL: (Aerobic and Muscular Endurance)

Segment	Time	Training Activity	Avg. Grade	TZ	RPM	Action
1	00:00 - 05:00	Warm-Up	0%	1-2	60-70	Listen to the audio version of Epic Redwing at www.indoorcycleinstructor.com/redwing - Easy roll out of Redwing as we warm up our legs with a gentle spin. Find a comfortable cadence and add enough load/gear to feel productive as we cross the Mississippi into Wisconsin.
2	05:00 - 15:00	Climb	+4%	2-3	70-80	This early climb is a continuation of your warm up and a great way to learn to discover when your body is ready for more intensity. Find and maintain a moderate pedal speed (70-80rpm) and then slowly add load/gears until you feel the need to stand – but stay seated. Feel your legs become stronger and when you sense some comfort return, it's your cue to add another gear as your Aerobic Engine comes alive. Give yourself a short recovery, take a drink and get ready for the next segment.
3	15:00 - 35:00	Endurance	0%	2	80-90	Endurance training is the bedrock of any cardio program and this 20 minute section is designed to help you build your Aerobic Engine. You're looking for a nice combination of load & leg speed (80-90 rpm) that brings your Heart Rate up to where you first sense a change in breathing. Try to stay just above what I call the "Chatty Zone", but rather push just a bit harder to where you could talk in short sentences, but would prefer to stay quiet and enjoy "just riding along". Continue to sense how you feel here and adjust your effort as necessary – it's very common to slip back into the "Chatty Zone" as staying above it requires that you keep focused on maintaining your effort.
4	35:00 - 50:00	Rolling Country	+2%	3	80-90	Endurance training is all about teaching your body to endure the effort. Instead of removing your load and recovering, try standing during the short rolling climbs at the same cadence. Take a seat at the top and recover back to "just riding along" (you were during the Endurance section)
5	50:00 - 1:00:00	Climb	+7%	3-4	70	Do you have anything left in your legs? Here's a great 9 minute climb where you can test them. Find a slower cadence (not too slow - around 70rpm) with load / gearing that says "get up and out of the saddle". Your challenge is to stay strong until the end. A good strategy for long, steep climbs is to alternate out and then back in the saddle, keeping your pedals at a constant speed.

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.

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	0%	1-2		
2	05:00 - 15:00	Climb	+4%	2-3		
3	15:00 - 35:00	Endurance	0%	2		
4	35:00 - 50:00	Rolling Country	+2%	3		
5	50:00 - 1:00:00	Climb	+7%	3-4		

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.