

Nb. Gears #2½: Cross-Chaining

Hi, this is Denis.

possible opening line: You've been hearing lots of tips on what to do when using gears.

Captains, here's some advice about something NOT to do.

- cross chaining: certain gear combinations you shouldn't use

- happens when gear shifters are at opposite extremes: i.e. highest front gear and lowest rear gear or lowest front gear and highest rear gear

- result is that the chain is pulled really far out of alignment

- bad for the chain, can bend derailleurs, wears out bike faster, makes annoying clicking sound

- if you find yourself cross-chaining, solution is easy:

- change one of the shifters away from extreme gear (and

toward one of the middle gear
settings instead)

possible closing line:

“Cross-chaining. Solved. Simple as
that.”