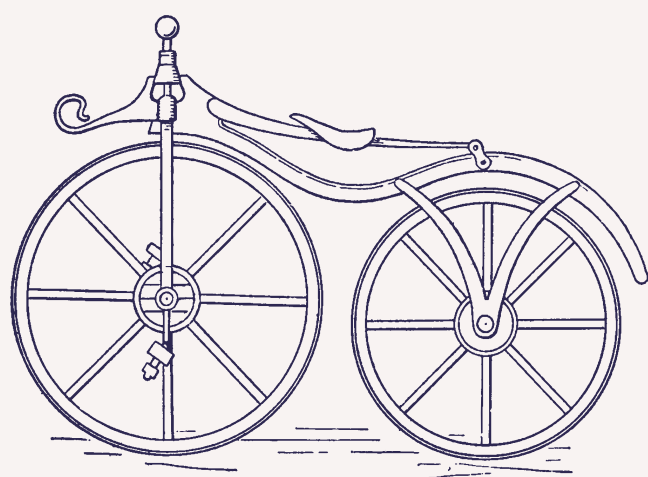


A BRIEF HISTORY OF THE BICYCLE

Stroke by stroke

1 LAUFMASCHINE

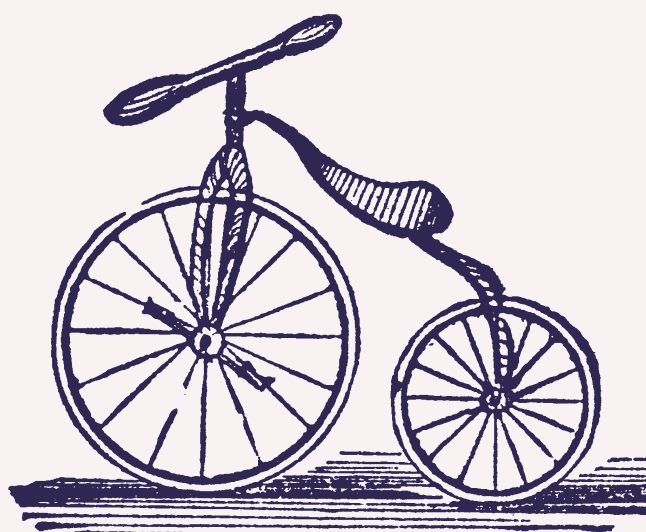


The earliest precursor to the modern bicycle was the "running machine" or "dandy horse", invented by Karl Drais in 1817. This device consisted of a wooden frame with two wheels, a steering mechanism, and a padded seat, but it had no pedals or chain. Instead, the rider would push off with their feet to propel themselves forward. Although the dandy horse was not particularly practical, it was an important step towards the development of the bicycle, as it demonstrated the basic concept of a two-wheeled vehicle.

VELOCIPEDE

2

The next major development in bicycle history came in the 1860s with the invention of the "boneshaker" or "velocipede". This design featured pedals attached to the front wheel, which allowed the rider to propel themselves forward more easily. However, the boneshaker was difficult to ride and had a bumpy ride due to the iron wheels and lack of suspension.

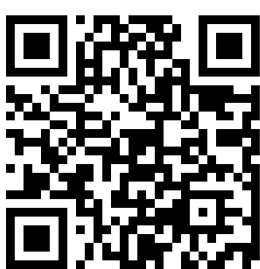


PENNY FARTHING

3



In the 1870s, the "penny farthing" or "high wheeler" was invented. This design had a large front wheel and a small rear wheel, which allowed for greater speed and efficiency. However, it was also more dangerous, as the high center of gravity made it prone to tipping over, and the lack of brakes made it difficult to stop.



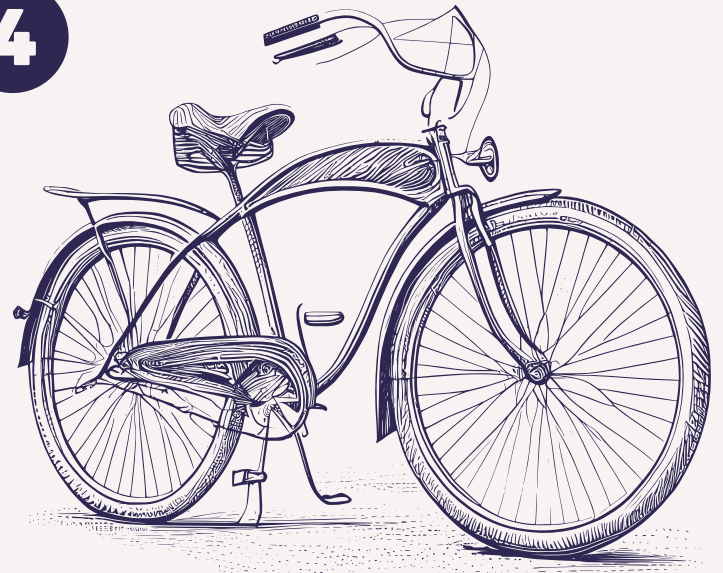
More Info!



The European Commission's support for the production of this publication does not constitute an endorsement of the contents, which reflect the views only of the authors, and the Commission cannot be held responsible for any use which may be made of the information contained therein.

THE SAFETY BICYCLE 4

The safety bicycle, which is the basic design used today, was invented in the 1880s. This design featured two wheels of equal size, a chain drive, and pneumatic tires. The chain drive allowed for greater efficiency and ease of use, while the pneumatic tires provided a smoother ride. The safety bicycle quickly became a popular mode of transportation, as it was much safer and more comfortable than previous designs.



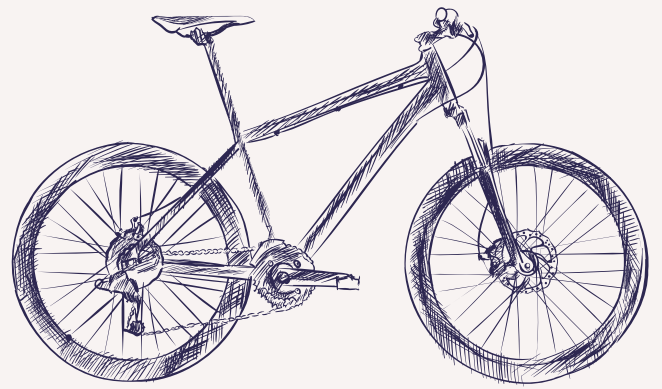
5 EVER SINCE

Since then, bicycles have continued to evolve and improve, with advancements in materials, gears, brakes, and other components. For example, the introduction of aluminum, carbon fiber, and other lightweight materials has allowed for faster, more agile bikes. The addition of gears and other components has made cycling easier and more efficient, while the development of disc brakes has greatly improved stopping power.

MODERN BIKES

Today, there are many different types of bicycles for a wide variety of purposes. Commuter bikes are designed for getting around town, while touring bikes are built for long-distance travel. Road bikes are designed for speed and efficiency, while mountain bikes are built for off-road adventures. There are even specialized bikes for BMX riding, cyclocross racing, and other specific purposes.

6



7 CONCLUSION

The history of bicycles is a rich and complex one, spanning nearly two centuries and involving countless innovations and advancements. From the earliest dandy horses to the high-tech racing bikes of today, bicycles have played a major role in transportation, sport, and culture. And with new technologies and materials constantly being developed, it's clear that the evolution of the bicycle is far from over.



More Info!

