

Ask Dave



Q. *What are the best techniques to shifting a 13 speed? Upshifting seems to be no big deal as I got that figured out very quickly but downshifting seems to be my downfall! I know about matching the RPM's etc but I am more interested in figuring out how/when to shift from Hi back to Lo. I know when upshifting you just release the throttle and it shifts from Lo to Hi but going the other way how do you do it?*

A. Downshifting is just the reverse of up shifting, only with the blipping of the throttle to keep things matched for speed as you mentioned. On downshifts you need to blip the throttle just a bit to keep the revs matched with the gear train speed. Everyone has a little difficulty with it at first but you can only get better with practice. Just don't force the shifter or grind the gears excessively.

Got a question for Dave? email: dave@isri.org