



Guide to Kid Bike Sizes: Children's bike sizes are determined by wheel diameter, not seat height and frame size as is the case with adult bicycles. The chart below should help you narrow your search, but it is not a substitute for an expert helping you find a bike that is most suitable. A critical factor is the brakes. Coaster brakes tend to be easier for young kids to use but they become less common as the bikes get bigger. It can be a conundrum and dangerous when kids who are tall for their age fit bigger bikes with hand brakes that they can't operate well. After kids outgrow children's bikes they'll move into small-framed adult bikes with 26 inch, 27 inch or 700c wheels, which are sized by the length of the seat tube.

Approximate Age	Child's Inseam	Wheel diameter "bike size" *
2-4 years	14-17 inches 35-42 cm	12 inches
4-6 years	16-20 inches 40-50 cm	14 inches
5-8 years	18-22 inches 45-55 cm	16 inches
6-9 years	20-24 inches 50-60 cm	18 inches
7-10 years	22-25 inches 55-63 cm	20 inches
9+ years	24-28 inches 60-72 cm	24 inches