ULTRACICLISMO

GUIDES · MECHANICS

Broken chain in 8 steps

Chain tool and quick link, far from any shop

The 8 steps

1
Stop
Safe spot, off the track.

2
Find the damage
Broken, twisted or stiff link. Check the derailleur.

3
Remove damage
Chain tool straight. Leave two inner ends.

4
Route the chain
Ring, cog, pulleys, cage. Clutch off.

5
Fit the link
Same speeds. Arrow in direction of travel.

6
Close it
Top run, rear brake, push pedal: click.

7
Check
Pins fully seated; backpedal, no stiff links.

8
Test and go
If shortened, no big-big gears.

Chain kit

- [ ] Chain tool tested at home
- [ ] 2 quick links for your speeds
- [ ] A few spare links
- [ ] Connecting pin if Shimano
- [ ] Master link pliers (optional)
- [ ] Wear measured before leaving

Keep going?

Quick link fitted, all gears work
Keep going

Shortened chain or original pin reused
Ride gently, no big-big; new chain at first shop

Broken derailleur or hanger, tangled chain
Single speed only to get home; not on full suspension

Speeds and quick link

SPEEDS	LINK	REUSABLE?
6-8	KMC 7/8R	Yes
9-11	KMC 9R-11R / 9NR-11NR	R yes; NR no
12	KMC 12NR; Shimano/SRAM: see manual	KMC no
Flattop / T-Type	The one for your exact chain; see manual	Usually no

Warning
Link for your speeds and chain. The fix is to get home. If in danger: 112.