

SPECIFICATIONS & GEOMETRY

AETHER 9 (AL)

Rev.1.1 11th December 2020



INTRODUCING THE AETHER 9

Send. Everything.

When designing the Aether series we set ourselves the goal of delivering the maximum fun on a trail centre ride as we could. As much as we like to think of mountain biking as the expression of our desire to explore the unknown wilderness, the reality for most people's modern day riding is that we're riding more and more man-made, and less wilderness trails. To extract the maximum enjoyment from this more groomed environment, we wanted to build something a little wilder than your average short travel 29er.

While many companies market their modern trail and enduro bikes as 'Well Balanced' and 'Quiver Killers', we prefer to think of the Aethers as a little unhinged or maybe just plain old fun. Bikes built to pump, jump and pop. To attack berms and rock gardens with equal enthusiasm, and most importantly of all, let you still do it after 30km in the saddle.

We've combined the best bits of modern enduro-focused geometry, XC efficiency and the oldest trick in the mountain biking book for making a bike ridiculously fun to ride, a compact rear. The 9 aluminium is the latest in the Aether story, with easy climbing, phenomenal downhill capabilities for a 130mm frame and that oh-so fun, confidence inspiring handling that begs to just send every damn thing.

AETHER 9 GEO

We wanted the Aether 9s to be more than winch and plummet machines - there's no compensation for travel when it comes to descending, and you can make a perfectly good winner with 150/160/170mm travel, so we needed something different here. This meant maintaining the room & comfort in the seated position, without creating a huge wheelbase that would hamper performance on tighter trail sections.

For the Aether 9 we start with two key dimensions for handling, seat (77°) and head angle (65° @ 140mm), and added to that 430mm chain stays and a bottom bracket that's low, but not compromisingly so.

We've kept our roomy effective top tube, that gives plenty of space for a comfy seated position even with the shortest of stems - but raised the stack height further on the L and XL models to allow an easier shift in rider weight distribution more to the front tyre - compensating for the slightly rearward weight distribution that the shorter back end creates.

With steeper seat angles comes other design considerations - the saddle gets right between your legs just when you don't want it to, but on our 3rd generation frames seat tubes are short, and straight almost the whole way down. We're careful to balance the insertion length

perfectly with the frame size - no point running a fantastically small seat tube if the post can't be inserted all the way. This careful design means that an ML will perfectly swallow our 200mm dropper without compromising the cable run, and L or XL frames can run the awesome (but lengthy) 213mm Revive; Bike Yoke's longest drop post fitting all the way in.

These little adaptations for modern riding styles like accommodating super long droppers, balanced seat angles and big standover height as all our Generation 3 frames have, and the addition of a little more stack height, has huge cumulative effects on rider confidence at high speeds and in rough terrain - compensating for the lack of travel and super poppy handling to create a still balanced feeling bike that encourages you to send it over jumps, stick it full bore into rock gardens, and slap turns like no other 130mm bike you've ridden.

BUILT THE BIRD WAY

Like all Birds we assemble every Aether 9 to order at our factory in Consett, UK. We combine multi-award winning customer service with one of the widest ranges of options from any manufacturer. The Aether 9 alone has over 30 billion possible unique specifications, and that's before we consider the many colours and sizes of components we offer in many of the lines. Of course some might say that's a *few too many*, so we only run the choice components from the best known and most respected manufacturers including RockShox, Fox, SRAM, Shimano and RaceFace.

It's not just about the big far-east manufacturing though, as we source manufacturing and branded components right here in the UK including some of our own Bird components, Hope and Unite parts, and all our DT Swiss components are sourced from Switzerland and Poland.

By selecting and manufacturing the very best components, we ensure whichever way you spec your Aether 9 there's no bad choices. We also understand what has real value on a bike. Simple touches like upgrading shifters to XT on our Deore and SLX group sets, or offering our own factory wheel line so you can get hand built wheels with your choice of rims and spokes, as well as brass and aluminium nipples depending on the build style you want - it's about doing it right; no compromising anywhere.

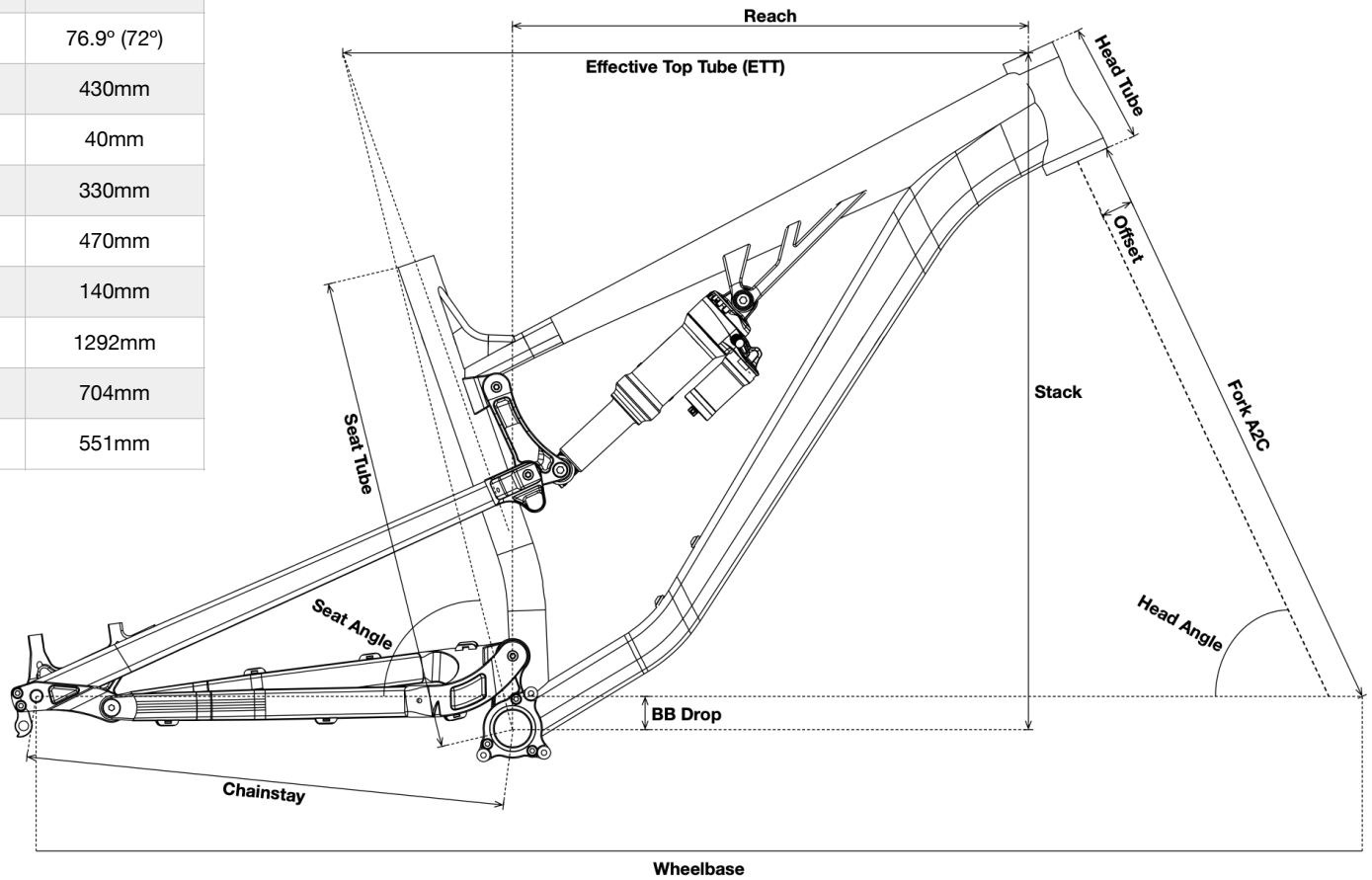
Specification options on the Aether 9 reflect its intent. Its impeccable trail manners and friendly climbing characteristics might fool you into thinking we've compromised on strength, but we haven't - the Aether 9 will run up to a 150mm 29er fork, and shares most of the same features that make our reliable AM9 still one of the lightest aluminium 29er enduro bikes around. Whichever PB you're after, up or down the hill, the Aether 9 has you covered.

Aether 9 aluminium builds start at 28.1 lbs / 12.75 kg (Med frame, XX1, XMC1501, Pike, Deluxe Ultimate, 125mm dropper). Of course you can specify your own choices, but most will be in the 30-32lb range.

AETHER 9 (AL) GEOMETRY

	MEDIUM	MEDIUM LONG	LARGE	EXTRA LARGE
ETT	605mm	630mm	655mm	680mm
REACH	462mm	484mm	506mm	527mm
STACK	625mm	634mm	643mm	652mm
HEAD ANGLE	65°	65°	65°	65°
SEAT ANGLE	77.1° (72°)	77° (72°)	76.9° (72°)	76.9° (72°)
CHAINSTAY	430mm	430mm	430mm	430mm
BB DROP	40mm	40mm	40mm	40mm
BB HEIGHT	330mm	330mm	330mm	330mm
SEAT TUBE	395mm	420mm	445mm	470mm
HEAD TUBE	110mm	120mm	130mm	140mm
WHEELBASE	1212mm	1240mm	1265mm <td 1292mm	
STAND OVER	699mm	700mm	700mm	704mm
FORK A2C	551mm	551mm	551mm	551mm

- (1) BB Height Based on wheel diameter of 740mm
- (2) All data given to fork and rear shock uncompressed
- (3) Seat Angle given as 'Virtual (Actual)'
- (4) Fork A2C is for 140mm 29" RockShox Pike (2021)

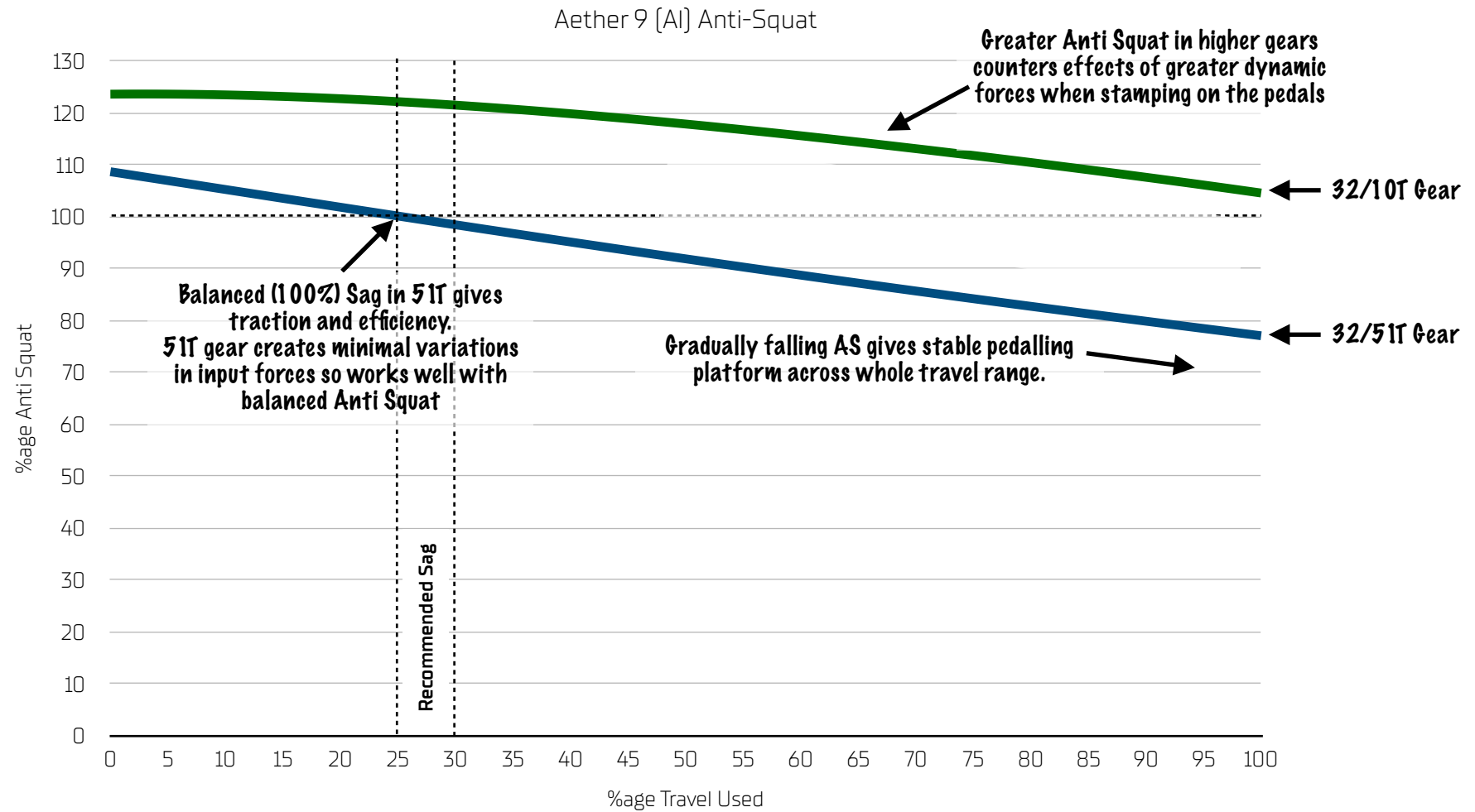


AETHER 9 (AL) STANDARDS AND SPECIFICATIONS

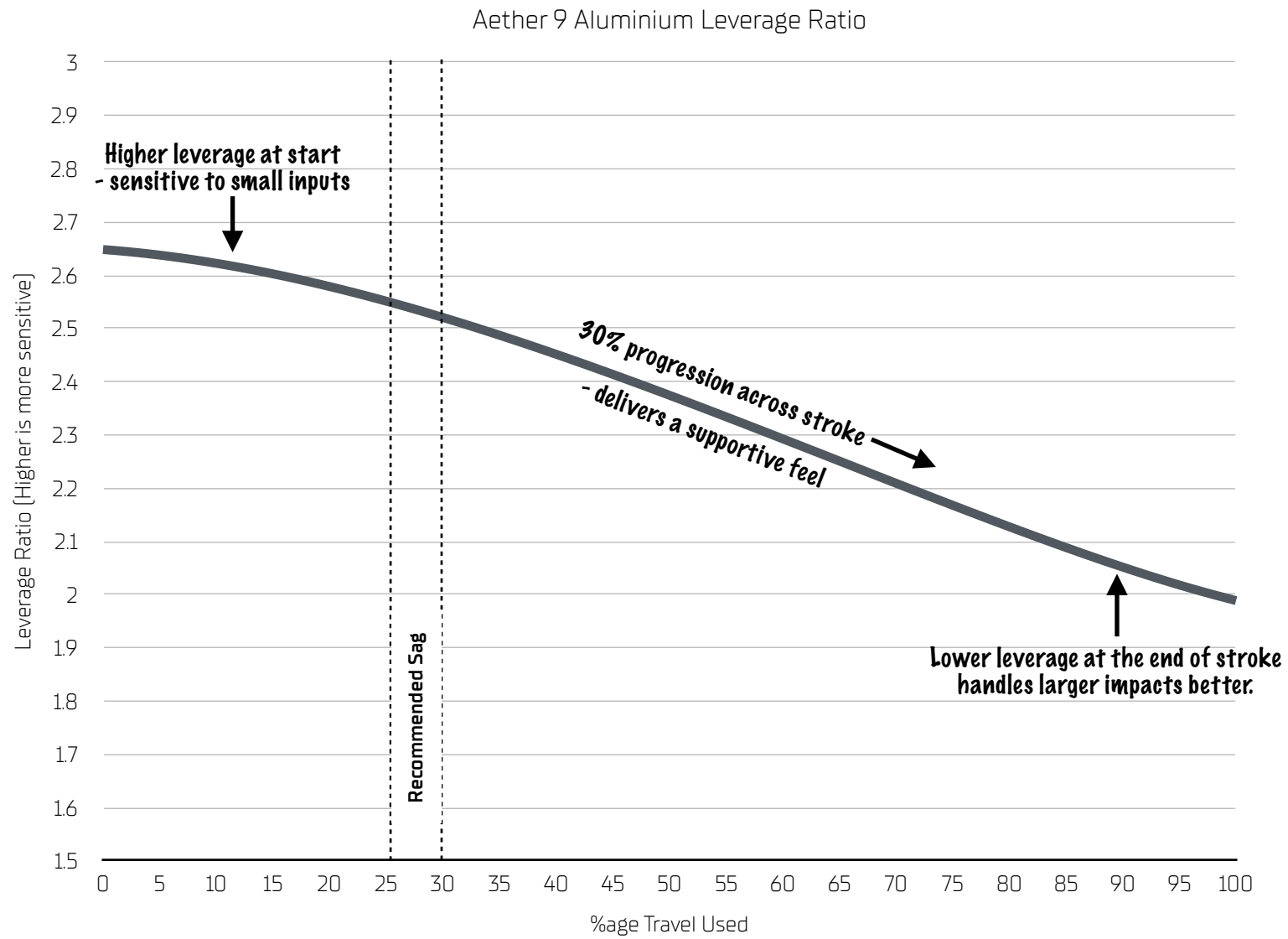
REAR TRAVEL	130mm
RECOMMENDED FORK	140-150mm
WHEEL SIZE	29"
MAX TYRE SIZE	29 x 2.6"
SHOCK SIZE	210 x 55
REAR AXLE	148 * 12 'Maxle' (L180 M12*1.75)
BOTTOM BRACKET	BSA 73MM Threaded
HEADSET	SHIS: ZS44/ZS56 Hope: 2E
SEAT TUBE	Internal Ø 31.6mm (Post) External Ø 34.9mm (Clamp)
BRAKE MOUNT	160mm Post Mount
SHOCK MOUNTS	8 x 30mm (RS & Fox Bearing mount compatible)
FORK OFFSET	42-46mm
MAX FORK A2C	561mm

Note: Fork offset is a recommendation, not a rule. All offsets in the range 37-51mm will work, although the handling will change with the offset. The guidance provided is to show how we like it.

AETHER 9 (AL) ANTI SQUAT



AETHER 9 (AL) LEVERAGE



AETHER 9 (AL) SPECIFICATION OPTIONS MY2021

Like your favourite bike shop, Bird offers a huge range of factory fit options. Unlike your favourite bike shop though, we're able to offer most of them at OE prices; getting you the spec you want at the best prices.

COMPONENT	OPTIONS	
SHOCK	RockShox Deluxe Select RT RockShox Deluxe Ultimate RCT RockShox Super Deluxe Ultimate RCT * Fox Factory DPX2	
FORK	RockShox Pike Select RC 140mm + 150mm RockShox Pike Ultimate RCT3 140mm + 150mm (c) RockShox Lyrik Select RC 150mm RockShox Lyrik Select RC2 150mm (c) Fox 36 Grip 2 Factory 140mm + 150mm (c)	
WHEELS	DT Swiss XMC1501 30mm DT Swiss EXC1501 30mm DT Swiss XM1700 30mm DT Swiss EX1700 30mm DT Swiss M1900 30mm	Bird Factory Hope Pro4 / XM481 (c) Bird Factory Hope Pro4 / EX511 (c) Bird Factory SL Hope P4 / XM481 (c) Bird Factory SL DT 240 / XM481 Bird Factory Hope Pro4 / M502
DRIVETRAIN	SRAM X01 Eagle AXS SRAM XX1 Eagle SRAM X01 Eagle SRAM GX Eagle / Carbon SRAM GX Eagle	Shimano XTR M9100 Shimano XT M8100 Shimano SLX M7100 Shimano Deore M6100
BRAKES	Hope Tech E4 X2 Hope Tech E4 E4 Hope Tech E4 V4 SRAM Code RSC SRAM G2 RSC SRAM G2 R SRAM Guide RE	Shimano M6100 Deore Shimano M6120 Deore Shimano M7120 SLX Shimano M8120 XT Shimano M9100 XTR Shimano M9120 XTR
TYRES	Maxxis DHF 2.5 3C MT Maxxis DHF 2.6 3C MT Maxxis DHR2 2.4 3C MT Maxxis Dissector 2.4	Maxxis Assegai EXO+ 2.5 3C MG Maxxis Rekon 2.4 3C MT Maxxis Shorty 2.5 3C MT

COMPONENT	OPTIONS	
BARS	Bird Big Baw 20mm Bird Big Baw 35mm RaceFace Turbine R 20mm RaceFace Turbine R 35mm	RaceFace Next R 20mm (c) RaceFace Next R 35mm RaceFace SIXC 20mm (c) RaceFace SIXC 35mm
STEM	Bird Blank 40mm Hope AM 35mm	RaceFace Turbine R 32mm RaceFace Turbine R 40mm RaceFace Turbine R 50mm
SADDLE	Fabric Scoop Radius Sport Fabric Scoop Radius Elite Fabric Scoop Radius Race	Fabric Scoop Elite Gel
GRIPS	Gusset S2 (c) Gusset S2 Extra Soft	RaceFace Getta Grip (c)
SEAT POST	Bird Down Dropper 125-150-170-200mm **	BikeYoke Revive 125-160-185-213mm
AXLE	Bird 148	RockShox Maxle Stealth 148 RockShox Maxle Ultimate 148
HEADSET	Bird (c)	Hope (c)
OTHER OPTIONS	Factory fitted CushCore Pro & XC	Multiple brake discs & sizes (SRAM/ Hope (c) /Shimano)
	Bird & Hope seat clamps (c)	

(c) Colour options available.

* Coming Spring 2021

** Multiple lever options

Options correct at time of publication. Subject to availability.