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TRIATHLON MAGAZINE

triathlete

BUYER'S GUIDE

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64

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CAMPAGNOLO BULLET 80
\$2,400, Campagnolo.com

The draw: Iconic brand association
 Choosing Campagnolo parts for your bike is more than an equipment decision—it serves as a membership card into a club of cycling devotees. The traditional Italian company hasn't caught up with the technological advances in wheel design made by some brands, and ride feel is decidedly rough on straight roads and in corners. Riding these wheels is a loud statement of devotion to decades of cycling history.

FLO CYCLING 60
\$848, Flocycling.com

The draw: Affordability
 Aero wheels don't have to cost more than a bike. This small startup borrowed rim shape features from some of the best (and most expensive) race wheels and created a much more affordable version. With data to validate the speed of these wheels, Flo has quickly earned a following. Braking is superb and road vibration is minimal. They do, however, feel a bit sluggish compared to top-notch wheels when accelerating. If you want a set, be prepared to be patient: Flo has a queue of people waiting to buy its wheels.

PROFILE DESIGN
58 TWENTY FOUR
\$1,800, Profile-design.com

The draw: Accessible carbon
 This is the only race wheel at this price range that can match the features of wheels from the likes of Zipp and Enve. Bontrager, Hed, Flo and other brands offering aero wheels below \$2,000 all cheapen wheel construction to drop the price tag; Profile Design builds its relatively affordable aero wheel with the same all-carbon construction of the most expensive options. And performance on the road lives up to those lofty expectations. They are fairly stiff and responsive when jamming on the pedals. Brake feel isn't quite as powerful as the best carbon rims, but it is more than adequate.