

## SIMONCINI TRACK FRAME+FORK £239 2.2kg



When it comes to track racing, stiffness and stability count above all else in your bike and Simoncini has got the balance right in this sensibly priced frame - as I found out racing at Reading track.

Simoncini nickel plates its frames before applying the finishing coat

- useful protection if you press the bike into use as a fixed-wheel winter hack as the fork crown is drilled to accept a calliper. While most steel frames are TIG welded nowadays this Simoncini sports cast lugs and older styled Columbus Cromor tubing profiled to the 4-leaf clover shape - outwardly similar to the Colnago Master from the mid-Nineties. Cromor, though a venerable and pretty basic steel alloy is plenty stiff and strong enough for track use. Frame alignment and braze penetration around the lugs is good and the bike uses an easy to source 27.2mm seatpost.

We specced the Simoncini with Royce track hubs and a red anodised Middleburn chainset, though a cheaper option is to use double fixed road hubs (try a cyclejumble) and a road chainset with the inner ring removed.

Weighing just over a couple of kilos this is no lightweight, but the Simoncini seems to magically shed that weight on the track where it feels well planted and reassuringly stable when carving a way through the bunch in the sprint, though we'd recommend that you match the frame with an exceptionally strong and stiff stem such as the 3TTT Status shown here.

*Paul Vincent*

**VERDICT:**

Not light, but a highly effective track iron  
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