



HIGHS

Super-tough and very stiff

Near instant freehub pick-up

Broad internal width

Easy servicing

LOWS

Heavy

Most
wanted
MBUK

Halo Vortex 650b wheelset £420 (with XD driver)

Halo have made super-durable wheels for decades and they've been working on the new Vortex for two years, on UK tracks and the Enduro World Series circuit. The result is a max-strength gravity/big-rider wheelset that's built to survive relentless abuse. The rim has been designed around a 2.5in tyre, but the 33mm internal width will handle 2.8in rubber just fine. They're tubeless taped as standard, with a snug fit that blows up easily. The walls are extra-thick to fend off dings and the 6061-T10 alloy was chosen for its impact resistance. Spoking and rim construction are asymmetric for equalised stiffness. The wheels are hand-built with traditional J-bend spokes. Micro-teethed pawls in the freehub give essentially instant three-degree pick-up. A heat-treated chromoly steel axle adds more strength, and we've had zero issues even when using these wheels on a heavyweight e-bike. They're easy to strip, and Boost and Torque Cap kits are available. While they're overkill for average trail use, the rapid pick-up and serious build stiffness help offset their hefty 2,190g weight (990g/1,200g) when accelerating. It's the way we've been hitting everything we can at full throttle, day in, day out since we got them, without a single issue, even running teen tyre pressures, that makes these great hardcore wheels, though. The price is good too, considering how long they're likely to last. **Guy**

www.ison-distribution.com

MBUK VERDICT

Unashamedly heavy-duty wheels
for relentlessly aggressive riders

