

**WHAT IS IT?** An inexpensive way to get a spare rear wheel for your race bike.

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**WHAT'S IT COST?**

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**WHAT'S IT DO?** Every hard-core motorcycle racer has a set of spare wheels on his wish list. A spare wheel allows a racer to use one set of wheels for practice, while saving his good set for racing. Additionally, a spare wheel can have a new tire mounted on it for a quick change in case of a flat tire in moto one. A spare wheel comes in handy. But the problem with spare wheels is that they cost a lot of money. Most of the major manufacturers will not sell complete wheel assemblies, preferring to part out wheels with over one hundred different part numbers. The best source of spare wheels is the aftermarket—where Talon, White Brothers, DNA, Rad and Excel do a bumper crop business building wheels for the masses.

Depending on your taste in rims, hubs, spokes, nipples and sprockets, rear wheel assemblies can run the gamut in prices, which is why the Warp 9 rear wheel came as such a shock. Warp 9 produces a complete rear wheel for \$359. Unbelievable! The low price sets off alarms about rims made from recycled soda cans and spokes snapping like twigs in a wind storm. But that isn't the case.

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**WHAT STANDS OUT?** Here's a list of things that stand out with the Warp 9 rear wheel assembly.

**(1) Price.** The Warp 9 comes completely laced and ready to mount with an aluminum sprocket, aluminum rim, stainless steel spokes, nipples and brake rotor. This deal is so good that it's comparable to a Ford dealer selling you a Ford GT for a Festiva price.

**(2) Features.** To be honest, most *MXA* test riders thought that the rims would be butter, spokes brittle and hubs cobby. Not so. The workmanship is good. No *MXA* test riders would choose to use the Warp 9 in place of their fancy race wheels, but we found the hoops to be perfect as spare and practice wheels.

**(3) Performance.** Obviously the true test of a wheel is how it holds up over the long haul. Short of a catastrophic failure, a wheel is graded qualitatively more than quantitatively. We put the Warp 9 wheel on one of our test mule bikes and rode it, raced it and used it just like we would any other wheel. Was it the greatest wheel we've ever used? No, but it resisted all obstacles that we threw at it (and looked no worse for wear than some of our OEM wheels). Our verdict? It worked, and during our test period it didn't suffer from an excessive number of flat spots, dings or maintenance issues.

**(4) Sprockets.** The Warp 9 wheel accommodates any other brand of sprocket, rotor and even the stock spokes.

**(5) Place of manufacture.** Warp 9 is located in Utah, but the parts are sourced from suppliers around the world.

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**WHAT'S THE SQUAWK?** No complaints.

# WARP 9

REAR WHEEL ASSEMBLY

Bang for your buck

**MOTOCROSS**  
ACTION MAGAZINE



**MXA RATING**



If you're in the market for fancy race wheels, go to Talon, Excel or the White Brothers. But if you just want an affordable backup wheel, Warp 9 is the name to remember.