

## INVENTING THE BICYCLE: The Penny Farthing

Here is another stage in the birth of the modern bicycle.

### THE PENNY FARTHING

In 1869, a Frenchman called Eugène Meyer invented the *High Bicycle*. It was also known as the *High Wheeler* or the *Ordinary*. Later, it was nicknamed the Penny Farthing after the British coins at the time. The front wheel was bigger (penny) than the back wheel (farthing). The pedals were attached to the large front wheel, which made it very fast. This made it dangerous, especially for the rider. Being high up in the air, the rider would go flying if he or she hit a bump in the road. This led to serious injuries and sometimes death.



1. Which country did the inventor of this bicycle come from?

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2. It was given **four** different names. What were they?

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3. How was it able to go very fast?

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4. **Two** things made it a dangerous machine to ride. What were they?

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