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WE REVIEWED EARLY samples of DMR's Zones in our last wheel test, but after a disappointing big dent incident we agreed to go in-depth and long-term to see how a fresh set of hoops held up.

The important news is that after a full summer of hammer and more than their fair share of rock and big drop abuse, the Zones are still round. There are no big flat spots or jug spouts in the rims either, despite several high-speed pinch punctures and

the inevitable flat tyre battering before you can stop. These incidents caused one sharp burr on the rim that we had to file down and a couple of aesthetic gouges but that's certainly not a deal breaker.

The hubs are still smooth, and the relatively small 12-degree pick-up lag and middling weight keep them responsive under power. The 24mm inner rim width gives noticeable extra support and stability to tyres

without cutting rolling speed too. The pre-taped rims seal easily, though they don't come with valves and it's taken us a while to find aftermarket valves that give a consistent, reliable airtight seal (we recommend the Schwalbe ones). **GUY**

MBUK

Affordable aggro wheels that are well on their way to regaining the toughness rep they need

★★★★☆