

Broken Bike Frame

My mountain bike's frame cracked recently whilst I was riding it to work. It happened out of the blue so to speak - I hadn't jumped off a gutter or done anything else to give the bike a jolt.

My guess is that there was a latent defect in the frame, possibly caused by the weld nearby the crack. I would be interested to hear anyone's thoughts.

Here is a little more info on the bike to help with your opinions:

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I bought the bike new from an eBay store for a bit less than \$300 AUD. The price was fairly low so I wasn't expecting great quality.

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The crack occurred when the bike was 18 months old.

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The crack occurred just below a weld. (See the photos below.)

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I ride the bike quite regularly to and from work which is about a 5km trip - it's always on the road and footpaths - never off road.

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I would say I'm a fairly conservative rider - I don't think the bike has had any harsh treatment.

Here are a couple of photos: