



Bike protection

Register your bike for free at www.immobilise.com
- if the police find a registered bike, they can reunite it with the owner.

Insure your bike on your home contents insurance - don't forget to cover it for thefts away from home. More expensive bikes may require specific insurance cover.

Consider riding a cheap, less desirable bike for day-to-day journeys and saving the more valuable bike for weekends and holidays.

If you don't need them, replace quick release levers with bolt up security skewers that are more difficult to remove.

Always report a stolen bike or bike parts - your theft might form part of a bigger series of crimes. If the police don't know about it, they can't act on it!

Don't support the sale of stolen bikes - only buy a second hand bike from someone you know and trust.

The world speed record on a bicycle is held by John Howard, Olympic Cyclist and Ironman triathlon winner from the US. In 1985 he reached 245.08 km/h (152.2 mph), cycling in the slipstream of a specially designed car.

What lock?

It pays to invest in the best quality locks that you can afford - expect to pay at least £40 or approximately 20% of the value of your bike. It costs, but not as much as buying a new bike!

Avoid cable style locks - many are easier to cut than D-locks or chains.

Never buy a lock with a combination - many can be opened with brute force.



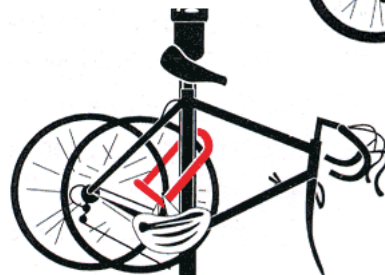
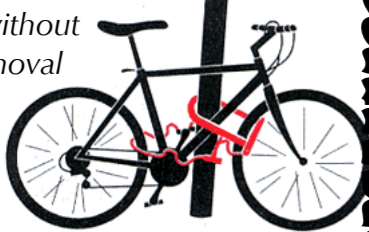
Buy locks that have achieved the Sold Secure award. Details of products can be found by visiting www.soldsecure.com

D-locks and chains should measure at least 16mm in diameter.

"When the spirits are low, when the day appears dark, when work becomes monotonous, when hope hardly seems worth having, just mount a bicycle and go out for a spin down the road, without thought on anything but the ride you are taking."

Sherlock Holmes author, Arthur Conan Doyle, Scientific American, 1896

Locking without wheel removal



Locking with removing front wheel removal

Graphics courtesy of Kryptonite



"Get a bicycle. You will not regret it. If you live."
Mark Twain

"The bicycle is a curious vehicle. Its passenger is its engine."
John Howard

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John Howard



Where to park?

Always lock – it only takes seconds to steal an unsecured bike.

Lock in a well-lit public area with lots of people passing.

Don't lock your bike in the same place every day - vary the locations so that thieves don't know where to find it.

Read all the signs in the area and, if necessary, check with police before locking – don't lock illegally.

Lock in a location with other bikes – there can be safety in numbers.

Lock to a fixed immovable object that the bike cannot be lifted over and cannot be broken, cut or removed using tools (such as chain link fencing, grilles, gates or trees) – check the object is securely fastened to the ground.

Where available lock to a Sheffield "loop" stand. Never use "wheel bender" stands where you have to lock the wheel to the stand.

Don't just lock the frame to the wheel – a thief can easily pick up a bike and walk away.

Why can't a bicycle stand up on its own?
Because it's too tired!

"When I see an adult on a bicycle, I do not despair for the future of the human race."
H.G. Wells

How to lock?

For maximum protection use two locks of different types (a D-lock and robust chain and padlock is ideal) – thieves are less likely to carry the tools to break both locks and if they do it will take them longer.

Use each lock to catch the wheels, frame and stand – fill up as much of the space within the D-lock as possible with the bike.

Never leave your locks in contact with the pavement – locks can be easily broken with bolt croppers or a sledgehammer when using the ground as a lever.

Don't lock the horizontal top tube of the frame to the stand.

Face the lock towards the ground (but not near it) to make it more difficult to pick.

Take any accessories that can be removed without tools with you and secure any quick release items with your locks.

Quickly check your locked bike before you leave to ensure it's properly secure.

When unlocking your bike, check for any damage caused that might affect your safety.



What is the cheapest type of bicycle you can buy?
A Penny-Farthing!

"At that age, it's one of the worse things in the world to wake up and not see your bike where you left it."
Hip-hop star 50 Cent, real name Curtis Jackson, on the theft of his childhood bike

"A bicycle does get you there and more and there is always the thin edge of danger to keep you alert and comfortably apprehensive. Dogs become dogs again and snap at your raincoat; potholes become personal. And getting there is all the fun."
Bill Emerson

