











# THEFT PREVENTION

Use a U-lock or sturdy cable and padlock, or both. U-locks are the most secure, though less versatile. Lock your bicycle every time you leave it, even for short intervals, and even if it's indoors. Lock it to a fixed object other than a tree (it damages them) or a pedestrian railing. Carry with you detachable items such as headlights, pumps, bike seats, etc., or find a way to secure them to your bike. Even with these precautions, nothing will deter professional thieves. Request that your place of business and other destinations provide secure bicycle parking such as bike lockers.

Bicycle theft is a serious problem. All types of bicycles, from the most expensive to the least expensive, are stolen. Here are some steps you can take to help protect your investment:

-  If your community has a bicycle registration program, take advantage of it. Registering your bicycle won't make it theft-proof, but it will help in returning the bike if it is stolen and recovered.
-  List your bicycle on the personal property declaration of your homeowner's or tenant's insurance policy.
-  Keep the serial number of your bicycle and a close-up photo of it on hand for police identification.
-  Lock your bicycle properly every time you leave it unattended.

## LOCKING TIPS

-  Protect your bicycle by carrying and using a high quality lock.
-  Use U-shaped locks which provide very good protection. A heavy-duty cable and key lock are next best.
-  Securely lock both wheels and frame to a bike rack or other stationary object.
-  Lock your bicycle in a conspicuous place where a thief is more apt to be noticed.
-  Don't lock your bicycle to trees; it can damage the bark.
-  Don't lock your bicycle to handrails or fire hydrants, near doorways, on handicap ramps, or other areas that interfere with pedestrian traffic.