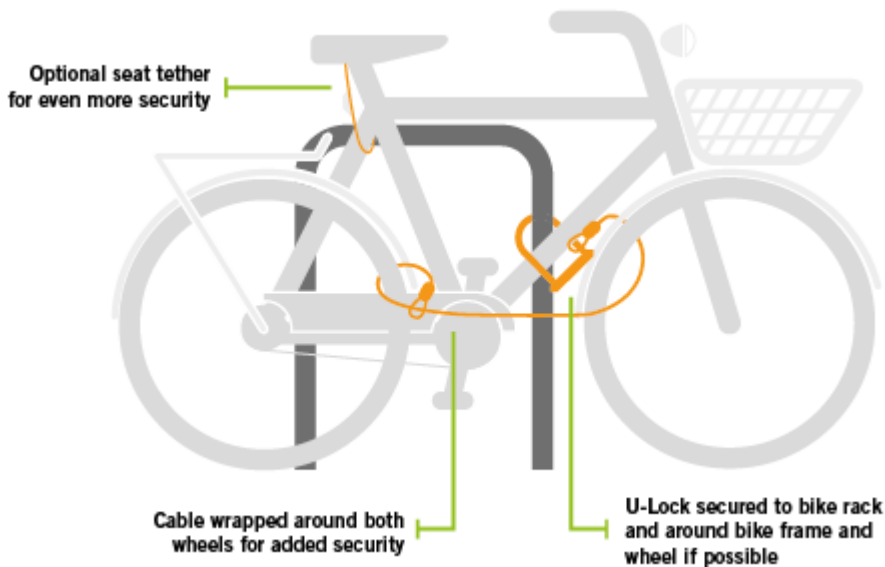




UL Lafayette Police Department

07/11/2013

Bicycle Theft Prevention



While finding a place to park your bike is easy, bike theft is still a problem. Learn how to lock your bike correctly so you can protect your ride.

Getting around campus is generally free and easy, but the cloud of bike theft is always hanging overhead -- unfortunately, bicycles are very easy to steal, and they make the perfect getaway vehicle. You can't make your bike absolutely theft-proof, but with some thought and preparation you can protect your bike and lock it up with confidence.



Make sure you've got the right gear, and don't bother with half-measures. **A cable lock is not enough!** Cable locks are just too easy to cut. **Always lock your frame with a high quality U-lock.** Use a U-lock that has a flat or disc type key.

Protect your bike by registering it

While registering your bike won't keep it from being stolen, it greatly aids in its return to you if it is recovered by the police. The police will not give you back your bike unless they have proof that it belongs to you. In addition, it helps the police identify and locate the proper owner.

Self-register your bike

Record your bike's serial number and other descriptive information and store in a safe place. Use our Operation Safeguard form to record the serial number and description of your bicycle. Then store the form in a safe and memorable place.

What to do if your bike has been stolen

Report it to the police. Provide simple descriptive information (and a photo if you can) and your serial number, if you have it. If you remember any distinctive marks, such as scratches, include those in the description.

Preventing Bicycle Theft - How To Lock Your Bike

- Always lock your bike's frame and wheels with a high-quality, modern U-lock (with a disc/flat key)
- Remove all detachable items like lights, bags and quick release parts and take them with you
- Lock to a bike rack, or firmly affixed (bolts covered in concrete) object - these are the most secure places
- Record your bike's serial number. Take a photo of you and your unlocked bike. Keep the receipt. All will help you identify the bike
- Always lock your bike, even if you're just leaving it for a moment
- Only buy a U-lock with a flat or disc key. Cylindrical keyed locks are more easily picked
- Always lock through the frame and a wheel. Add a cable, cable lock, or second U-lock to lock the second wheel
- Beware of locking to "sucker poles" that are loosely bolted down and can easily be removed

The safety of our community does not have borders. It is the goal of every law enforcement agency to protect the citizens that we serve. When you see suspicious activity, contact your local police department or call 9-1-1. Together we can make a difference in our community.

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