



KEEPING YOUR BICYCLE SAFE

Lock your bike whenever you leave it, even if you are just going into a shop. The best sorts of locks are 'D bars' made of a loop of solid metal. Chains deter casual thieves but can be easily cut with the right equipment.

Always lock your bike to something solid like a lamppost or railings. If you have quick-release wheels, take off the front wheel and lock it to the frame and back wheel. When at home store your cycle in a garage or a shed and even then, lock it to something solid.

Mark the frame with your postcode. This will help the police get it back to you if they find it – they have thousands of unclaimed, unidentified bicycles. Some cycle dealers do this free of charge. Cycle dealers will also provide details of how you can get your bike 'micro chipped'.

When you have marked your frame, apply a 'Coded Cycle' sticker to let thieves know. These stickers can be obtained from the Police.

We can also supply a 'recorded cycle' form on which you can record all your bike's details so that if it is stolen and then recovered, the police will be able to match it to the description. It is sensible to take a photograph of your cycle for identification purposes.

Only a small percentage of bikes reported stolen are ever recovered, but owners can improve the chances getting their cycles back by registering on line with www.bikeregister.com.

For a small fee, they are given a "log book" as proof of ownership - and police can use the register's secure database to link lost or stolen bikes they recover with the rightful owner.

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