

Bike theft is one of the largest problems on college campuses. Thousands of dollars are lost every year in bikes and bike parts. Many of these thefts could have been prevented by following a few simple steps:

- Always lock your bicycle, regardless of how long you will be away from it or how much it costs.
- Only lock your bike to approved racks, not trees or sign-posts.
- Try to use a rack that is in a well-lit or well-traveled area.
- When possible, keep your bike in your room.
- Use a hardened steel U-type lock - also consider using anti-pry devices.
- Register your bike with your University Bike Program.
- Consider buying a cheap bike and using an expensive lock.
- Always ensure that your bicycle is locked properly and completely.

Bike

Many bike thefts occur because the bike was not locked at all or was locked improperly. The following pictures demonstrate the safest way to secure your bicycle, and will also show the most common mistake made in locking up a bike:



The lock should secure the bike frame and bike tires to the rack.



Especially if you have quick-release tires, remove front tire and lock it to the back tire and frame.

Theft



Lock bike seat to bike frame.



When locking the bike over a rack, ensure that the U-lock is secured around the bar of the rack.



WRONG: This bike is only locked to itself, and not to the bike rack! If the front wheel is released, the bike can be removed from the rack.

Prevention