# Bike Theft Prevention



seattle.gov/crime-prevention

## **Bike Theft Prevention**

#### **How to Prevent Theft**

The majority of bikes stolen are unlocked or locked with poor quality locks:

- Solid-steel U-Locks are recommended. These are difficult to cut when secured properly.
- If you use a flexible lock, it should be at least 3/8" in diameter.
- Secure your bike to a rack or solid object both the wheels and frames.
- At home, store your bike in a secured area.
- Do not leave bikes locked outside overnight if it can be avoided.

#### **Document Your Bike**

## Make it easier to get a stolen bicycle returned by documenting it:

- Consider registering your bike online.
- Take photos of your bike and write down the serial number.
- Engrave the bike's serial number on any removable parts.

#### How to Report a Stolen Bike

- Report online at: seattle.gov/police/report
- If you see the crime in progress call **9-1-1**. If the bike theft has already occurred, call the non-emergency line **206-625-5011**.

### Key Tip:

Never leave your bicycle unlocked, even for a minute! Take the extra time to lock your bike.



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