

CYCLE SECURITY



FIRST PRINCIPLE

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Top Tips

- Always lock your bike with at least one good quality lock.
- Ensure the lock is away from the ground and as tight as possible.
- Lock your bike to a secure purpose made cycle stand or other immovable object.
- Leave your bike where it can be seen by passers-by and CCTV.
- Register your bike at www.immobilise.com
- Remove or secure removable parts.
- Don't buy a bike you suspect may be stolen.

Bicycle theft is a common problem internationally. Ordinarily it refers to the theft of the entire bicycle, but can also include the theft of component parts and accessories.

Most cycle thefts occur in the immediate vicinity of the victim's home such as gardens, sheds and garages.

Bicycles are attractive targets for theft. They are widely available (increasingly so in many urban settings), easy to use, easy to sell and, critically, often left poorly secured despite their high value.

Always lock your bike with at least one good quality lock.

- Choose locks meeting Sold Secure Gold Standard.
<https://www.soldsecure.com>
- It is preferable to use two different types of lock at the same time. This means that the thief will require different tools to cut the locks and will also take longer, increasing the chance of being caught. Choose a quality D-lock and substantial chain with padlock from Sold Secure.
- **Never** leave your bike unlocked, even for a moment, both when you are out and at home.

Ensure the lock is away from the ground and as tight as possible.

- Keep the locks away from the ground to prevent them being smashed open.
- Use the D-lock to lock the frame and wheel to the stand and put the chain around as much of the bike as possible before attaching it to the stand. The more space there is around the locks, the easier it is for a thief to get tools around to break them.

Lock your bike to a secure purpose made cycle stand or other immovable object.

- If you plan to leave your bike when you go out, do some research and

find out where there is secure cycle parking. Cycle parking within car parks registered with Park Mark <http://www.parkmark.co.uk/Car-park-finder> is a good starting point.

- Never leave your bike attached to a movable object such as a temporary sign outside a shop or a plastic drainpipe.
- Choose a purpose-built cycle stand firmly attached to ground. If possible, use cycle parking that is within an access-controlled area but don't forget to use your normal locks as well.
- Don't forget to lock your bike to a secure immovable object at home as well. See the Shed and Garage Security notes for further information.

Leave your bike where it can be seen by passers-by and CCTV.

- Check that the area is well-lit and covered by working CCTV.
- Make sure that *you* check for suspicious behaviour too. Bold thieves will cut locks in broad daylight because they know it is unlikely anyone will challenge them.



Register your bike at

www.immobilise.com

- Immobilise is a free property register. Police have access to this database 24/7 and can check a bike if they think it may be stolen or use it to return bikes to their rightful owner if recovered. It may also assist with a prosecution.
- The sister site www.checkmend.com can be checked by anyone, including second hand dealers, prior to purchase, which reduces the chance of a thief being able to sell on your bike if stolen.
- It is simple to use – simply set up an account and add the serial number of your bike (this is usually found on the underside of the crank between the pedals).
- Add your postcode to the bike too and also take photos of it to assist recovery.
- Check our website for details of any police registering events.

Remove or secure valuables

- This includes wheels, saddles, lights and any device you use to monitor performance.

Don't buy a bike you suspect may be stolen

- If the price seems too good to be true, be very suspicious.
- Meet the seller at their home or work address.
- Never buy from someone that approaches you in the street.
- Check that the seller knows details about the bike, including any security markings.
- Ask the seller if they have the original receipt.
- Check for security markings using a UV pen.
- Check the sister site to Immobilise <https://www.checkmend.com> and also <https://www.bikeregister.com/bike-checker> prior to purchase to ensure it is not registered stolen.

First Principle: Related links

Ask the Police

Official Police Resource. The Ask the Police website provides you with information on a wide range of non-emergency policing matters.

askthe.police.uk

Secured by Design

Official UK Police initiative that combines the principles of 'designing out crime' with physical security.

securedbydesign.com

Sold Secure

Dedicated to reducing the risk of crime by assessment of security products.

<https://www.soldsecure.com/>

Crimestoppers

An independent charity that gives people the power to speak up to stop crime 100% anonymously, by phone 0800 555 111 or online.

<https://crimestoppers-uk.org/>

Victim Support

Covering the whole of Norfolk and Suffolk, a free, confidential support service specifically designed to help victims and witnesses of any crime.

Contact us on:

Phone: 0300 303 3706 (weekdays between 8am-5pm)

Email: nsvictimcare@victimsupport.org.uk

Web: www.nsvictimcare.org

Socials: @nsvictimcare

Call us on 101. Always dial 999 in an emergency

To see the full range of information go to:

suffolk.police.uk/firstprinciple or

norfolk.police.uk/firstprinciple

Or alternatively use your mobile phone to scan this QR code.

