



# COMMUNITY ALERT

## Notification



LOS ANGELES POLICE DEPARTMENT  
OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE CYCLISTS / LAPD TASK FORCE

## BICYCLE THEFT

LOS ANGELES HAS RECENTLY EXPERIENCED AN INCREASE IN BICYCLE THEFTS.

The Los Angeles Police Department has implemented several crime fighting strategies to reduce crime in the City and to apprehend suspects. Additionally, we want to work in partnership with the business and residential communities to implement efforts to further reduce the likelihood of bicycle thefts, as well as ALL thefts in the City.

***maintain awareness***

***prevent crime***

***reduce bicycle thefts***

Things to do to protect your bicycle:

- Record the serial number/model/make/color of your bike (type the number in your cell phone).
- Take photos of your bike.
- Etch your frame and parts with your personal ID, write your ID inside rim or on a card inside the frame.
- Invest in at least one (1) quality bike lock or locks (u-lock, 3/8" hex or quad chain, heavy padlock).
- Learn how to lock your bike.
- Lock and secure your bike in your home or garage at all times when not in use.
- If you keep your bike in your yard or street use high quality locks to secure it to a permanently fixed location.

***Do not leave your bike unattended  
or unlocked even if it's,***

***"just for a minute"***  
thieves can steal a bike in minutes

How to get involved:

- If you see someone steal a bike call 911
- If you see suspicious activity or a prowler call 877.ASK.LAPD 877-275-5273
- Do not get personally involved, be a good witness and call the police
- Document vehicle descriptions especially license plates, and look for distinguishing marks or features
- Document suspect descriptions, hair & eye color, height and weight, clothing description including shoes
- Get to know your neighbors and exchange telephone numbers (home and cell)
- Log on to [www.lapdonline.org](http://www.lapdonline.org)
- Join a neighborhood watch group

**[www.lapdonline.org](http://www.lapdonline.org)**

U-LOCK & CABLE LOCK



CHAIN & CABLE LOCK



CABLE LOCK ONLY



FRAME ONLY



U-LOCK



1



2



3

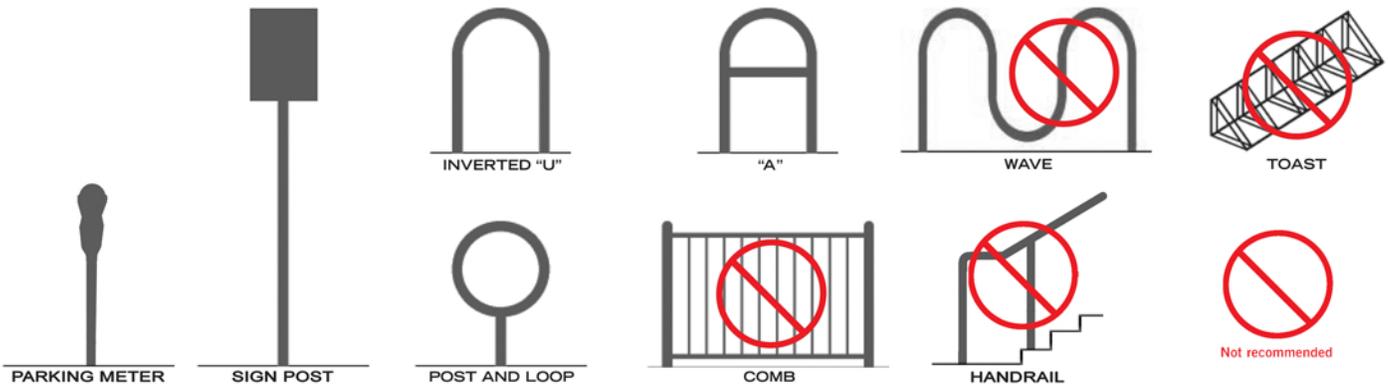


FRONT WHEEL ONLY



### How to lock your bike:

- Take a quick release front wheel with you or take it off and lock it up to the frame.
- Always lock your rear wheel, frame and front wheel. Cable lock your seat for extra protection.
- Secure the lock tightly. Leave no room for a lever or crowbar to pry the lock open.
- Always take accessories (lights, bottles, computers, bags, bells, etc) with you or lock them to your bike.
- Use locking skewers and bolts for your wheels, seatpost, headset, and brakes.
- Never lock only your front wheel, handlebars, seatpost, top or head tube.
- Don't rely on a bolt or screw to hold down anything -- wrenches and screwdrivers are common tools.



Always check that the rack or object is firmly bolted and/or welded in place. Beware of loose or unfastened bike parking.

### Where to lock your bike:

- Park at bicycle racks, sign- fence- light- posts, parking meters, gas mains, or mature trees.
- Properly secure it to a fixed location that can't be lifted up and away.
- Keep the bike within your view, the view of the front door, or a highly pedestrian traveled area.
- Don't lock your bike overnight in an unfamiliar neighborhood without many locks.

### DIY: Do It Yourself:

- DIY - lock an old bike chain wrapped in an innertube to your bike frame.
- DIY - hot glue ball bearings into tightly adjusted allen bolts.
- DIY - zip tie loose items and accessories .
- DIY - hose clamp quick release levers to frame and fork.
- DIY - wrap parts in old innertube to cover and protect headset and stem.
- DIY - slip a business card inside the bike frame.
- DIY - write your name and phone number on the rim strip.

Developed    NOV - 2010  
by the  
**Cyclists/LAPD Task Force**,  
to educate, to empower, and  
to encourage safety in our  
neighborhood and on our  
streets.