

Bicycle Theft Prevention

Each year, hundreds of bicycles are stolen on campus and in the city of San Francisco. Most thefts can be prevented by properly securing the bicycle with an adequate lock to an approved, fixed object. **Always** lock your bike and lock it to a bike rack or bike pod! The majority of stolen bicycles have been left unlocked, locked only to themselves, or secured with an inadequate lock. U-locks are recommended. A 6-foot cable or chain (the thicker the better) used with a U-lock allows you to lock your bike to any rack or pod available and secure your wheels as well. Don't entrust your good bicycle to a cable alone. Be aware that any cable can be cut.

Theft Prevention Tips

- Always lock your bike, even if you're leaving it for "just a minute".
- Whenever possible, always lock your bike to a fixed, but legal, device such as a bike rack or pod.
- Lock your bike in a highly visible, well-lighted location.
- U-shaped high security locks are among the most theft-resistant locks available.
- Quick-release wheels and seats can be secured with a cable and/or chain. Consider installing locking hubs on your wheels or other security devices available at bike shops.

If, in spite of all these precautions, your bike is stolen, be sure to report it. Call Public Safety (415) 422-4201 to report thefts on campus, and S.F.P.D. (415) 553-0123 if your bike is missing within city limits. Bicycle thefts can also be reported online to the San Francisco Police Department at <http://www.sf-police.org/>.

Bicycling Safety Tips

- Always wear a helmet
- Don't use a cell phone while riding unless using a hands-free device
- Ride at a safe speed for conditions
- Have your brakes adjusted and working properly
- Stop at stop signs
- Ride on the right side of the roadway
- Yield to pedestrians in crosswalks
- Ride in the correct direction in one-way areas
- Use lights when riding after dark

While riding your bicycle, obey all traffic laws and wear a bicycle helmet! Helmets can greatly reduce the risk of head injuries and death. However, even the best helmet has limitations. Defensive cycling is the key to bicycle safety.

According to the California Vehicle Code, every person riding a bicycle upon a street or highway has all the rights and responsibilities of the driver of a motor vehicle. You may be cited for running stop signs, riding at an unsafe speed for conditions, riding on the wrong side of the road or upon sidewalks, wearing headphones while riding, talking on a cell phone without a hands-free device, not having legal brakes, etc.

Cyclists are required by state law to use front white lights, rear red reflectors, pedal and side reflectors at night. Additional lights are a good idea, especially red rear flashers, light colored clothing, and extra reflectors.

For additional bicycle safety tips and theft information please contact Public Safety at (415) 422-4201.

- [California DMV Bicycle Safety website](#)