



## CYCLE SECURITY

### Securing Your Cycle

- D-locks are stronger than cable locks or chains
- Lock “tight” so the lock cannot be twisted or levered
- Always lock your cycle, even if you leave it only for a short period of time
- Check the security rating of your lock – “Sold Secure” and German and Dutch ART1 to 5+ standards”
- Lock your cycle to a cycle stand or another immovable object, preferably through the frame and wheel, using a D-lock
- Always park the cycle where it can be seen clearly, not somewhere quiet where a thief can spend time undisturbed. However, leaving it on a busy street will not guarantee its safety
- Never lock the cycle to something which is easier to break than your lock. A tree or wooden fence could be sawn through
- Make the lock mechanism hard to access – if it is a pain for you to unlock, it will also be a pain for the thief to do the same
- If possible, vary the place where you leave your cycle
- Never leave the lock on the ground where it could be smashed easily
- For more information on types of cycle locks visit [www.securedbydesign.com](http://www.securedbydesign.com) and [www.soldsecure.com](http://www.soldsecure.com)

### Get your cycle insured!

Ask your insurer to extend your home contents insurance to cover your cycle and ensure that the cover includes theft or damage inside and outside the home

If the cycle is particularly valuable, it may be necessary to insure it as a separate item

### Record

Keep a record of the cycle’s frame number (serial number), make, model, colour, frame size, wheel size, tyre (make and colour), gears (make, type, number), accessories and any marks that can identify it if stolen and later recovered by the police.

Note. The frame number may be located:-

Near the handlebars

Below the seat post

By or underneath the pedals

Towards the rear wheel

If stolen, photographs of the cycle could aid attempts to recover it or prove ownership

### Post-code, SmartWater and Register

Put your post-code on the cycle using either Cremark, which is visible, or a UV pen for marking which is invisible except under UV light.

Consider applying SmartWater to the cycle.

Register your cycle’s details at

[www.immobilise.com](http://www.immobilise.com) --- [www.bikeregister.com](http://www.bikeregister.com)

These will help police return the cycle to you if stolen and later recovered.

### Report

If your cycle is stolen or there has been an attempt to steal it, contact the police immediately and provide as much information as possible

If the stolen cycle is registered on a property database, provide the Police with the unique code

Ask for and record any Police incident or crime reference number

Inform your insurance company

**Acknowledgement** The advice given above is based on that given in an article by Nottinghamshire Police which appeared in the June/July 2014 issue of Nottingham Local Magazine.