

## FOUR EASY STEPS TO PROTECT YOUR BICYCLE



VICTORIA POLICE

- 1 Use a good quality lock
- 2 Lock your bicycle properly
- 3 Make your bicycle identifiable
- 4 Insure your bicycle

### RECORDING YOUR BICYCLE DETAILS

Fill in the following details about your bicycle and keep this in a safe place for when you need it.

Owner's name: \_\_\_\_\_

Brand: \_\_\_\_\_

Type: \_\_\_\_\_

Size: \_\_\_\_\_

Colour: \_\_\_\_\_

Serial number (Under pedal crank case):  
\_\_\_\_\_

Identification details (engraved) on bicycle:  
\_\_\_\_\_

Photo of bicycle: Yes / No (please circle)

### FURTHER INFORMATION:

For further information on how to protect your bicycle please contact your Police Division Crime Prevention Officer and/or Neighbourhood Watch Coordinator.  
([www.police.vic.gov.au](http://www.police.vic.gov.au))



VICTORIA POLICE

## BICYCLE SECURITY

### Protect your bicycle against theft





VICTORIA POLICE

# Four easy steps to protect your bicycle

## Introduction

Bicycle thefts are increasing in Victoria.

Bicycles are being stolen from homes, workplaces, residential streets and community locations.

Police are still seeing bicycles left without any locks or security measures in place.

Bicycle accessories including Go Pros, are being left on bicycles, these items are vulnerable to theft.

**Locating owners of bicycles that have been found or seized by police is often difficult.**

Few people are aware of their bicycle's identifying features, so returning bikes to their rightful owners can be very difficult.

The aim of this brochure is to educate bicycle owners on how to best prevent their bicycle from being stolen and how to record identifiable features about their bike.



### 1. Use a good quality lock

The best lock to keep your bicycle safe is a D lock. The D Lock (also known as a U lock) is a solid, curved metal lock that generally provides a higher level of security and deterrence than cable or chain locks. D locks are heavier than other locks and cannot be used to lock bicycles to larger objects such as power poles or trees.

### 2. Locking your bicycle properly

There are several important steps to take when locking your bicycle.

It is important to ensure you:

- Utilise bicycle parking infrastructure where possible
  - Remember to check your bicycle can't be removed or lifted off/over what you've locked it to
  - Park in well lit, public areas where possible
- It's also important to lock the frame and wheels to the parking infrastructure by using one or more locks, especially if your wheels have quick release mechanisms.

Also remember to remove items of equipment that could be easily stolen including lights, computers, panniers and pumps.

When parking your bicycle at home, make sure it is securely locked and out of sight.

### 3. Making your bicycle identifiable

If your bicycle is lost or stolen, the chances of it being returned are improved if:

- Your driver's licence number is engraved on the frame, and
- You keep a record of your bicycle details and a photograph of your bicycle.

#### **Engrave your driver's licence number**

Engrave the letter 'V' (for Victoria) followed by your driver's licence number on the frame. If stolen and recovered police are able to return your bicycle using your licence details. People who do not have a licence can use the licence of a relative or a friend.

#### **Record your bicycle's serial number**

A bicycle's serial number is usually located on the frame near the pedals.

#### **Take a photograph of your bicycle**

This will allow you to give an accurate description and assist police & yourself to identify your bicycle when it is recovered.

### 4. Insuring your bicycle

Bicycles can be insured against theft & damage through your home &/or contents insurance policy. Ask your insurance company for details.