



# SDSU

## Crime Prevention Unit

[www.police.sdsu.edu](http://www.police.sdsu.edu)

(619) 594-1991

**CALL EMERGENCY**  
**9-1-1** FIRE  
POLICE  
MEDICAL

# Lock Your Bike

**B**icycles on this campus are subject to specific traffic regulations pursuant to Section 21113a of the California Vehicle Code. Bicycles and skateboards are not allowed on campus walkways, including the central malls and footbridges. Violation of regulations will make you subject to a citation by University Police. Careful bicycle use cannot be over-emphasized and regulations will be enforced to riders and pedestrians. One ought to remember there are also blind and wheel chair students who have trouble with bikes parked illegally; bikers have all the rights and are subject to all duties applicable to the driver of a motor vehicle. Copies of these regulations are available at the University Police Office.

To operate a bicycle, it must be licensed with a California State Bicycle License, which may be obtained at the front counter of the University Police Department. The license is free; registration is valid for a period of up to three years expiring on December 31 of the third year.

A license decal will be provided and placed on the frame below the seat of the bicycle. It is transferable upon sale of the bicycle. A renewal decal will be provided for transfers, destroyed or missing licenses at no charge and all these transactions shall be recorded. If a serial number cannot be found on the frame, a new one will be etched on the bicycle free of charge. This new serial number will be the same as the license number. Removal or alteration of a serial number is against the law.

Thieves are well-equipped and well-organized so you should carry a secure bike lock whenever you plan to leave your bike unattended. Lock it through frame and both wheels to a stationary object. Bikes left overnight or during vacation break are often found stripped.

The absolute minimum security device is a three-foot length of 3/8-inch case hardened chain together with a quality key type padlock with at least a 3/8-inch hardened shackle. Beware of cables less than 1/2-inch in diameter, non-case hardened chains and locks, combination locks, one piece locking sets and chains with links less than 3/8-inch diameter. The best type of lock is a "U" type lock made especially for bicycles. See your local bicycle dealer or University Police Crime Prevention for more information.

If your bike is stolen, report it immediately to the University Police. The chances of recovery are greater if you have licensed your bike and can provide the serial numbers. Remember that you can lessen the chance of loss by licensing it, locking it with a dependable lock arrangement, and parking it in a well-lit bicycle rack in a high foot traffic area. Keep the locking device as high above the ground as the bike will allow to reduce the leverage of a pry bar or bolt cutters.

## PROTECT YOUR BIKE

- Install a quality "U" type lock.
- Lock through frame and both wheels to stationary object at least 3 feet above floor.
- Use chain of 3/8-inch hardened steel alloy with welded continuous links or steel cable at least 1/2-inch diameter to lock the wheels to the frame.
- Use a padlock with 3/8-inch hardened steel shackle with double locking heel and toe mechanism, a five-pin tumbler and a key retaining feature whenever possible.
- License your bike and keep serial number in a safe place.
- Park in a well-traveled, well-lit area; report all thefts or suspicious activity.
- Etch a prominent ID in several different locations; record it.
- Remove front wheel when leaving bike if chain is too short.
- Put name and address in handlebars, then put grips back on.
- Paint portions of bike in odd colors (inside bars, under bottom bracket).
- Report suspicious persons cruising or surveying bike areas; get license number.
- A color photograph showing ID locations can be useful.
- Bike insurance is a good investment; there is no absolute guarantee against the determined tool-equipped thief.
- Engrave serial number on all accessories including wheel rims, handlebars, etc.
- Do report all thefts and attempts. A crime report furnishes accurate crime statistics (crime patterns), documentation and referral. It will assist us in the proper implementation of a Crime Prevention program.