

# An Interview with a BIKE THIEF



**Why steal bikes as opposed to other types of crimes?**

They're easy to move around and I like the thrill of stealing them—I can make a lot of money re-selling them.



**Were you asked to steal specific bikes?**

I would only steal bikes that were decent to get a good return on. But I'd take anything that I can sell.



**What's your best advice to anyone who owns a bike?**

Invest in a strong lock, the more expensive the lock, the more effective it's going to be.



**How much planning did you do before going out?**

I often receive bike "orders" and go out during the week. I knew which areas I wanted to hit and do the same area for a few days before moving to a different area.



**Do you know what happened to them after you got rid of them?**

People would ride them around. But owners are stupid and they never register details of their bike anywhere. I've been stopped on a stolen bicycle, but since there's no record of it, I go on my way.

## Top 3 LOCK Recommendations



U-lock



Folding lock



Chain lock



Cable lock



U-Locks are the most difficult for thieves to break



16 mm U-locks and chain links can't be cut by bolt cutters.

**DON'T BUY CABLE LOCKS**  
77% of stolen bikes at UCI were secured with a cable lock.



## Was Your Bike STOLEN?

### Report It!

two options...

1 Call (949) 824-5223

2 Visit the UCI Police Department



### Why?

- \*If your bike is recovered, it can be quickly returned to you.
- It helps the Police Department collect data to catch bike thieves.



\*Only if you've registered your bike with UCI Transportation at [www.bikes.uci.edu](http://www.bikes.uci.edu)



# STOLEN!

YOUR UCI  
**BIKE**  
PROTECTION GUIDE



## UCI Police Department

150 Public Services Building  
Irvine, CA 92697-4900  
(949) 824-5223  
[www.police.uci.edu](http://www.police.uci.edu)

# BICYCLE THEFT

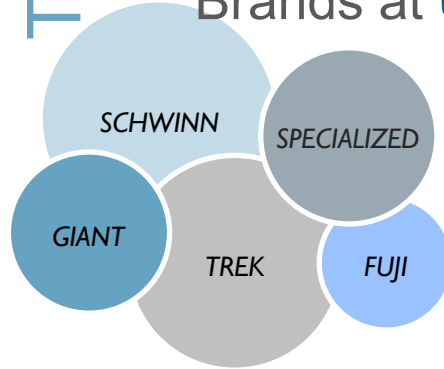
Quick Facts

According to the National Bike Registry, "a four-year student bicyclist faces a 53% (1 in 2) chance of losing their bike to theft."

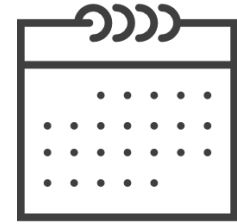
Bicycle thefts are a prevalent issue on UCI campus - in fact, it's our top crime.

We share these 2013 - 2018 facts to help you avoid becoming the next victim. We encourage you to take the proper steps to secure your bicycle.

## TOP 5 MOST STOLEN Brands at UCI



**3PM - 6PM**  
typical  
**TIME** for  
thefts



**MONDAY  
TUESDAY  
THURSDAY**  
typical **DAYS** for thefts



**\$215,307.00**  
Total Value  
of stolen bikes

**77%**

of stolen bikes  
were SECURED with



**CABLE  
LOCKS**



## TOP THEFT Locations

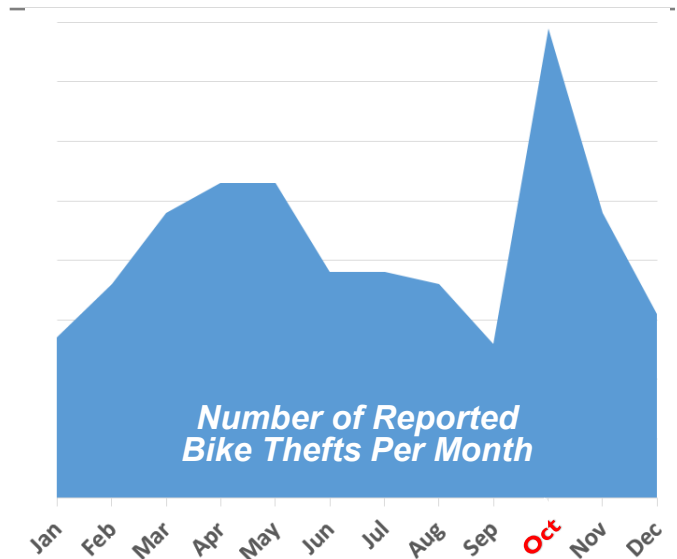


## MOST STOLEN type



**Mountain  
Bike**

**DO NOT BUY ONE!**



Number of Reported  
Bike Thefts Per Month