

How NOT to buy a stolen bike

- 1 Check the Serial #. The seller must be able to give you a serial # - ensure it has not been filed off or tampered with. Then search a serial # on BikeIndex.org to make sure it's not stolen.
- 2 Check the Bike. Make sure the bike matches the ad, does not have mismatched parts, and does not have scratches or dents that would indicate a lock was forced open or cut off.
- 3 Check the Ad. If the price is too good, they use a stock photo, lack key detailed information, terrible grammar and spelling, overly anonymous sellers, and if they sell a lot of bikes or their story just doesn't add up, it's time to look elsewhere.
- 4 Check the Seller. If they sell a lot of underpriced bikes, you can't find any contact information or sales history, if they have no knowledge of the bicycle they're selling, and if they won't meet at a safe, public location, find a new bike to buy!

Trust your gut. If it seems too good to be true, it probably is.

Bicycle registration shouldn't be confusing. Nor should you have to go somewhere to do it. And it definitely shouldn't cost you money.

Pick up your bike registration sticker at any EPS front counter or at participating locations. See edmontonpolice.ca/BikeIndex for the complete list of locations.



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Learn more at
www.edmontonpolice.ca/BikeIndex
or www.BikeIndex.org

Keep your bike safe!

Register it with EPS and Bike Index.



Stop bike theft:

Record it.

Lock it.

Report it.

About Bike Index and EPS

The Edmonton Police Service (EPS) collects 25-30 bicycles each week and only 24% of these are returned to owners. To change this statistic, the EPS has partnered with Bike Index in attempt to deter bike theft from the moment you purchase your bicycle. And if your bicycle is ever lost or stolen, we can return it to you A.S.A.P.

Bike Index is a web-based platform where you can register your bike with a smartphone or desktop computer. It's a free, universal, open-source, non-profit bicycle registry. With over 800 partner organizations, almost a quarter of a million registrations, and over \$8 million in stolen bicycle recoveries, they take the guesswork out of registration. As soon as you purchase your bike, or the moment you read this pamphlet, you can go to bikeindex.org and register your bike, in about two minutes, and your registration is completely free - forever.

If your bike is ever lost/stolen, head to your Bike Index account and mark it 'stolen' to let the community know. If anyone sees it, they can contact you immediately.

It's a bike registry that gives everyone the ability to register and recover their bicycles.

Simple.
Efficient.
Effective.

How to Register Your Bike with Bike Index

- 1 Create an account at BikeIndex.org. You'll need to provide your bike's details including serial number, make, model, and colour. You can add more details like aftermarket parts too – the more details the better. Don't forget a photo!
- 2 Get your free unique sticker from an EPS front counter or participating Edmonton bike shop. Place your sticker on the seat tube of your bicycle (the bar that extends from the saddle, down to the bottom bracket).



- 3 Scan the sticker's QR code with your smartphone camera or QR reader app and open the link.
- 4 Link your bike by searching your bike description, email address, or bike's serial number and click 'Link It' when your bike is listed.

**After you register, click 'update your profile' to add your phone number!
Only law enforcement will be able to see it.**

If you include your phone number, any EPS officer who finds your bike can contact you immediately to notify you of your bike's whereabouts. This will allow an easier transition for us to return your bike to you.

Why should I get a sticker?

You don't need a sticker, but it is:

- a unique identifier so anyone with a smart phone can instantly be taken to your Bike Index registry page to contact you if they believe it's stolen
- another deterrent for potential bike thieves as it shows your bike is watched for by the entire community
- made of strong material to weather any storm and is extremely difficult to take off
- And it's free!

How to report a stolen bike

If your bike goes missing, mark it as lost or stolen on BikeIndex.org to notify the entire Bike Index community. Don't forget to report stolen bicycles to police at edmontonpolice.ca/ReportACrimeOnline.

The Bike Index community will be notified once you've marked your bike missing and any Bike Index user can message you on Bike Index if they've found it.

Did you find your bike for sale online?

Many stolen bicycles can be found for sale online. **If you find your bike being sold online:**

- 1 Take screenshots of the ad – ensure the ad # and any seller contact information is recorded
- 2 Have your proof of ownership ready (your Bike Index account should have all the necessary details like serial #, Bike Index sticker number, photos, etc.)
- 3 Contact police immediately at 780-423-4567 or come to a police station.

NEVER contact the suspect or arrange to meet the suspect yourself. For your safety and proper investigative measures, please let police officers take care of this.