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What Type of Bike Lock Should I Buy?

Bike security is understandably high on every bicycle owner's list of priorities. With this in mind, you may be left wondering which type of bike lock is most suitable for your needs.

Here, we're going to take a look at the most important criteria you should consider when buying a bike lock and suggest a couple of products that fit the bill.

If you want to know which bike lock to buy, then read on.

Security

Security is *obviously* one of the most important considerations when it comes to your bike lock. But there are a number of factors to think about when considering security.

For example, you need to know what strength the lock needs to be based on your location and the location you'll be locking the bike up in. If you live in a densely populated city, for example, you're likely to require a high strength lock. If you live in a small countryside village then you can probably go for something a little less heavyweight.

The OnGuard 8005 Pitbull is a great example of a high strength U-lock. It has recently been awarded the new Sold Secure Diamond status, meaning it is one of the strongest out there and the toughest to get through.

Lock Type

The next thing to consider is the *type* of lock you're using. They come in various configurations, the main ones being U-Locks, cable locks, folding locks, and chain locks. These vary in size and length, and they also vary in thickness so, therefore, strength.

It is not advisable to buy cable locks, generally. They are easy to get through with bolt cutters and don't secure your bike properly.

The [Oxford OF801 Monster Chain Lock](#) is certified by both Sold Secure (diamond status) and Thatcham, so you can rest assured knowing this lock has been put through the mill.

Lock Brand

There are generally considered to be three main brands when it comes to bike locks and they are chosen for their quality craftsmanship, customer service, and price.

OnGuard makes some really inexpensive locks that are well made. Abus makes expensive locks, but they are probably the best locks on the market. Kryptonite sits somewhere in between OnGuard and Abus in terms of both quality and cost, but they do offer a key and lock replacement service.

The Best Type of Lock for You

The best bike lock for you depends on what kind of security you need, at the end of the day. There's no point spending a fortune on an expensive bike lock if you live in a remote village. If you live in a city, particularly if you have an expensive bike, you'll want to splash that extra cash for peace of mind.

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