Tips for parking your bike securely

- Buy a good quality lock such as a D-lock, extension cable or heavy chain lock. A good way to prevent theft is to use more than one kind of lock.
- Lock your bike wherever you decide to leave it, no matter how long you intend to be away. Your bike can be stolen within a few seconds.
- For secure locking, lock the bike frame, back wheel or both wheels, but never lock only the wheels.
- Secure items when you leave your bike. Remove any parts that can’t be secured e.g. pump, light and toolkit.
- Park in open areas where many people walk by and your bicycle can be seen easily.

Cycling at night

Riding at night requires some additional equipment and greater awareness. To cycle at night safely you should:
- Always use lights on your bicycle at night. A white front light and a red rear light.
- Adjust your headlight correctly so that it illuminates the path and is not shining in the eyes of oncoming cyclists or pedestrians.
- Ride within the range of your headlight. Slow down if your braking distance is greater than the amount of path being shown by the light.
- Use reflectors. A red rear reflector and yellow reflectors on both wheels and pedals must be fitted.
- Wear light-coloured clothing and preferably something reflective to increase visibility.

Web links

Plan your trip and access the following information at www.transport.wa.gov.au/cycling
- Brochures
- Cycling Facts Sheets
- Cycling And The Law
- Maps and Guides

Cycling on roads

A bicycle is a legal vehicle, therefore the same rules apply to car drivers and cyclists on the road. However, there are a few road rules that only apply to cyclists. They must:
- Have at least one hand on the handlebars while in motion.
- Wear an approved helmet while in motion (unless exempted).
- Give more than two metres distance when riding behind a motor vehicle.
- Not hold onto or be towed by another moving vehicle.
- Not ride a bicycle on freeways or other roads that prohibits riding.
- Not be more than two bicycles abreast on the road. When riding abreast, the two bicycles must not be more than 1.5 metres apart.
- Use the left lane of a roundabout when turning right, but must give way to all exiting traffic.
- Not ride in a pedestrian mall.
- Not overtake on the left side of a motor vehicle that is moving and indicating to turn left.

Cycling instead to work

Tips for cycling to work:
- Work out your goal
  E.g. “In three months I will be riding the eight kilometres to work four days a week”. This goal allows your body to adjust to doing a new activity.
- Prepare for your first ride:
  1. Maintenance: Make sure your bike is working well. You may need to pump up the tyres, oil the chain or take it to a bike shop to be looked over.
  2. Plan route: Using the Perth Bicycle Network routes is an easy way to work out a good route. You can view our bike maps online at www.transport.wa.gov.au/cycling
  3. Duration: Consider making a trial ride over the route on the weekend. This is a good opportunity to see how long it takes.
  4. Luggage: Add a basket or pannier bag to your bike for a more comfortable journey. Or find a comfortable packback.
  5. Refreshing: If you are going to need a shower at work, maybe get a locker to store some toiletries and a towel.
  6. Adjusting: You may need to ride only once in the first and second weeks, followed by twice a week for a while. Giving your body a little time to adjust is the best way to ensure it isn’t too much effort.

Before long, you will be riding regularly, getting fit, saving money and reducing greenhouse emissions.