



IN A WORD : **SECURE.**

<http://www.wordlock.com/press.html>

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From Backpacks to Bicycles: How to Beat Property Theft

The best way to prevent theft is to take small, inexpensive steps

- When travelling, always keep your identification with you and do not put all your cash in one place. Put some cash on your person and put a single, high-denomination emergency bill in a small plastic bag in your shoe.
- Travel with as few bags as possible, and put a small luggage lock on every bag you do carry. In airports, always use TSA-approved luggage locks that security officers can inspect without having to cut the shackles. On rail or bus travel, add a padlock for extra security. In hotels, a padlock and a small lightweight cable lock can be extremely effective deterrents, as well.
- To keep track of your combinations, store the numbers in your cell phone, send an email to yourself before you leave home, or put the numbers on duplicate pieces of paper in two different places. An even easier solution comes from a company called Wordlock, which uses word combinations instead of numbers and allows you to set the same password for all your locks.
- For bicycles, lock your bike to a fixed, immovable object every single time. It seems obvious, but many bicycle thieves strike when owners leave their bikes for "just a second."
- For longer lockups, keep your bike in a visible area around other bikes. Never trust a single U-lock on the frame. Use a second cable lock to secure both wheels and the seat post. You can eliminate extra keys by using a combination cable lock, and it is almost impossible for anyone to pick the U-Lock and decipher your cable lock code in the same attempt.
- Around the house, it never hurts to padlock your garden shed, which often houses a surprising amount of expensive tools and outdoor equipment. Motion detectors connected to security floodlights are often all that is needed to scare away potential burglars. Solar-powered lights that automatically turn on during night hours and charge during the day can serve your security needs and save electricity, too.
- Remember: There are no 100% effective ways to prevent theft. However, you can decrease the odds that you will be the victim by using caution; staying in high-traffic, well-lit areas; and keeping a few locks in action .

LINKS

"Air Travel, Travel Assistant," Transportation Security Administration,

<http://www.tsa.gov/travelers/airtravel/assistant/locks.shtm>

"Backpacking Advice," <http://www.travelinsuranceguide.org.uk/backpacking-advice.html>

"How to Prevent Bicycle Theft," Intown Bicycles,

<http://www.intownbicycles.com/how-to/articles/index.php?a=how-to-prevent-bicycle-theft>

"How to Avoid Bicycle Theft," eHow Sports & Fitness Editor, http://www.ehow.com/how_1733_avoid-bicycle-theft.html

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About Wordlock, Inc.

Todd Basche, former VP of Software Applications at Apple, and Rahn Basche founded Wordlock in 2007 in Santa Clara, California, to create and manufacture combination locks that use letters instead of numbers. A patented algorithm maximizes the number of possible words on a Wordlock, with up to 100,000 different combinations on five letter dials. Wordlocks are made of hardened steel and come in luggage locks, bike locks, padlocks, cable locks and commercial locks. Wordlock won the Staples Invention Quest in 2004 and was named "Top 100 New Inventions" by The U.S. Patent and Trademark Office's Invent Now America competition in 2008.