

City of Portsmouth Bicycle Racks Guide

The City's standard for bicycle rack design is the inverted-U style, as pictured at right. The City uses the following criteria for selecting a successful bicycle rack design and for guiding where bicycle racks will be located.



Design

The bicycle rack should:

- Support a bicycle upright in a horizontal plan by its frame in two places.
- Prevent the wheel of the bicycle from tipping or flopping over.
- Enable the frame and one or both wheels to be secured.
- Support bicycles without a diamond-shaped frame or a horizontal top tube (e.g. a “step-through” frame).
- Allow front-in parking: a bike lock should be able to secure the front wheel and the down tube of the frame on a bicycle in an upright position to the rack.
- Allow back-in parking: a bike lock should be able to secure the rear wheel and seat tube on a bicycle in an upright position to the rack.
- Be accessible from both sides.
- Be simple and intuitive for the user.



Location

The bike racks should be located according to the following guidelines:

- Convenient and Accessible – Rack should be located adjacent to the entrance / entrances it serves (30 second walk or 50 to 120 feet from entrance). Rack should have adequate clearance (2-feet recommended) to properly secure the bike and to allow access from both sides. Spacing between rack units should be a minimum of 2.5 feet to provide room for two bikes to fit side by side.
- Visibility – Rack should be visible from the destination and easy to find (not hidden behind other street amenities or buildings)
- Safe and Secure -- Racks should not be placed so they block pedestrian flow and should be located in a well-lit and visible area.
- Attractive – Racks should enhance the streetscape.