**How NOT to buy a stolen bike**

**If you don't want to buy a stolen bike – and you want to help stop the black market for bikes – use these 4 simple steps when buying online**

### Check the Ad

- **Stolen Bike** doesn't match AD
- **Oversized Ads**
- **Simplex Bicycle**
- **Sellers too good to be true**
- **Overly anonymous sellers**
- **Sellers who can't or won't give serial**

### Check the Seller

- **Lots of bikes for sale?**
- **Not too much information**
- **Sellers who can't or won't give serial**
- **Serious sellers**
- **Sellers who are overly anonymous**
- **Sellers whose stories simply don't add up**

### Check the Serial

- **Seated bicycle with number**
- **Five listings…**

### Check the Bike

- **You should always check a bike's details with the stolen bike report at stolen.bikeindex.org.**

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**Remember:** You can report noncooperative or questionable sellers to badsellers@bikeindex.org. We crowdsource our reports to BikeIndex.org, our tools, and our partnerships. BikeIndex.org is a free, open source bicycle registration database run by people who love their bikes – and hate bike thieves. Through BikeIndex.org, our tools, and our partnerships across the world, we make stolen bikes harder to sell and easier to recover. All for free!