



Patron FAQ – Book-A-Bike at Belmont Library

1. Why bicycles at the library?

We're excited to become one of just a handful of libraries nationally with bicycles available for free checkout. This service further expands upon our robust collection of non-traditional materials available to our patrons.

Bicycles will grant patrons access to transformative experiences outside of our library walls, which aligns with our [strategic plan](#) and vision. Additionally, it provides our patrons with a sustainable transportation option and equitable access to a free resource.

2. What is the minimum age to check out a bicycle?

Patrons 18 years and older are invited to check out a bicycle.

3. What is needed in order to check out a bicycle?

Patrons will need a valid library card and a signed [electronic waiver](#). New patrons without a library card are welcome to sign up for one by bringing their I.D. and proof of address. Bicycles are available on a first-come, first-served basis.

After providing your library card and signed e-waiver to front desk staff, you will be given a bike lock key and helmet. Then, you can unlock the bike from the bike rack in front of the library and begin your journey!

4. Why must I sign a waiver to borrow a bicycle?

Like any physical activity, risks are involved when bicycling. Among other things, signing the waiver acknowledges you understand these risks and agree to wear a helmet and use the bicycle responsibly. Due to safety reasons, patrons should not make modifications to our bicycles. Bicycles should be returned in the original condition it was checked-out in.

5. Which library can I check out a bike from, and do you plan on expanding?

Book-A-Bike is launching as a pilot program. Currently, bicycles are only available for checkout at Belmont Library. If Book-A-Bike is successful, we hope to expand this service to more of our libraries.

6. How many bicycles do you have and how did you choose them?

With an eye for easy-to-ride, reliable bikes, we purchased a fleet of four low-maintenance, award-winning bicycles. Many of the bike's components, including a carbon drive belt, three-speed internal gear hub, and flat-free tires, should ensure a smooth ride for patrons and less maintenance for staff.



7. What does it cost to check out a bicycle?

Just like anything else in our collection, bicycles are free to check out.

8. How long can I check out a bicycle for and how do I return it?

Bicycles are available for same-day checkout. You can return them as quickly as you'd like or 30 minutes prior to the library closing. Bicycles must be returned to Belmont Library. Please lock the bike at the bike rack and return the key and helmet to library staff.

9. What accessories come with the bicycle?

Each bicycle includes a basket for cargo, a bike bell, a bike light (front and rear), bike lock, first aid kit, and a helmet, some of which have a GoPro mount.

10. Why should I wear a helmet?

Helmets are critically important for rider safety and injury prevention. For your safety, we require you to wear a helmet while riding.

11. What types of terrain can the bicycles handle?

Our bicycles can handle city roads, dirt and grass paths, and gravel-type terrains. Our bicycle fleet is not suited for mountain biking.

12. What should I do if I get stuck on my bike somewhere?

From a safe place, call the [Belmont Library](#) for help. They'll ask you for the location of the bicycle and coordinate its return with you. As a last resort, if you decide to leave the bicycle somewhere in the community, please call to inform staff, lock the bicycle, and take the accessories with you to return to the library.

13. What should I do in the case of theft or vandalism?

If you can safely operate the bike, return it to the library and discuss the issue with staff. If you cannot safely ride the bike, from a safe location, please call and report the situation to the Belmont Library.

14. Is there a weight limit?

Each bicycle can carry up to 275 lbs. safely. Please advise that each bicycle is for individual use only—they should not be ridden by more than one person.

15. Are the bicycles regularly cleaned?

Bicycles and helmets will be cleaned after each use. Clorox disinfecting wipes will be used on the bicycle and helmet spray will be used on the bicycle helmets.