



OVERCOMING BIKE COMMUTING CONCERNS

I'M OUT OF SHAPE	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Ride at an easy pace; in a few months you will be in great shape.• Ride your route on a weekend to find the easiest way to work.• Consider an e-bike (lots of bikeshare services have them now!) or bike part of the way and take transit for the rest.
IT TAKES TOO LONG	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The average commuter travels at 10 mph (and faster by e-bike)—the more you ride, the faster you will get.• Trips of less than three miles will be quicker by bike than by car.• Trips of five to seven miles in urban areas may take the same time or less as by car.
IT'S TOO FAR	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Try riding to work and taking mass transit home, then alternating the next day.• Combine riding and mass transit to shorten your commute.• Ride to a coworker's house and carpool to work.
NO BIKE PARKING	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Look around for a storage area in your building or office.• Stash your bike in a covered, secure place such as a closet or even your office.• Formally request that your employer provide bike parking or lock it up outside.
MY BIKE IS BEAT UP	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Tell a reputable bike shop that you are commuting and have them tune up your bike.• If you can't maintain your bike yourself, identify bike shops near your route.• Make sure that your bike is reliable and in good working order before you start riding.
NO SHOWERS	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Most commuters don't shower at work; ride at an easy pace to stay cool and dry.• Ride home at a fast pace if you want a workout; shower when you get there.• Health clubs offer showers; get a discounted membership for showers only.
I HAVE TO DRESS UP	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Keep multiple sets of clothing at work; rotate them on days you drive.• Have work clothes cleaned at nearby laundromats or dry cleaners.• Pack clothes with you and change at work; try rolling clothes instead of folding.
IT'S RAINING	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Fenders for your bike and rain gear for your body will keep you dry.• If you are at work, take transit or carpool to get home; ride home the next day.• Take transit or drive if you don't have the gear to ride comfortably in the rain.
THE ROADS AREN'T SAFE	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Join bike advocacy groups to join our work for safer streets.• Obey traffic signs, ride on the right, signal turns, and stop at lights.• You are at no greater risk than driving a car.• Wear a helmet every time you ride.
I HAVE TO RUN ERRANDS	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Add accessories like a cargo rack, basket, or handlebar bag to add carrying capacity.• Make sure that you have a lock to secure your bike while you are in a building.• Allow extra time to get to scheduled appointments and find parking.• Encourage your employer to provide a bicycle fleet for office use.