



From the [ClimateAction.Center EBIke Guide](#)

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Last Update 2/13/2023

Taking care of your new e-bike

Keep your new bike safe, extend your battery life, and stay ahead of breakdowns

Security - ward off the thieves

- **Register your bike** with pictures of it, with this free non profit national bike registry:
 - **Bike Index** <https://bikeindex.org>
- **Use a high quality, heavy duty, keyed U-lock**
- **Lock the frame** inside of one of the triangles. Never, ever, just lock a wheel..
- **Lock the wheels:** If you don't have locking axles, use a cable to lock the wheels.
- **Lock the bike to something tough** - a secure post or part of a building - even at home in your backyard, garage porch etc
- **Lock in well-lit, publicly visible**, well-traveled areas, such as in front of a bustling cafe. Use secure bike facilities, such as the BikeLink system (<https://www.bikelink.org>) when available.
- Find more useful info on protecting your bike at <https://bikeeastbay.org/theft>

Battery care - get the most life out of your battery

Batteries lose capacity over time, providing shorter range as they age. To get more range out of your bike and to make it last as long as possible:

- **Don't do small top offs daily:** Wait to charge the battery until the level indicator is at half or below.
- **Avoid storing and charging in extreme heat & cold** (like a car trunk on a sunny summer day). Charge the battery at room temperature when possible.
- **Don't leave the battery plugged into the charger for multiple days.**
- **Store partially charged:** If you will not be riding for a week or more, charge about half way (between 50% & 80%). Top it off when you are ready to ride again.

Preventative maintenance - keep it running

- **Initial break in tune up:** Most shops offer a free inspection to tighten bolts and adjust shifter and brake cables a few months after getting a bike. Cables stretch. Get them adjusted.
- **Shift gently:** Slow down your pedaling briefly when shifting gears to reduce strain on the chain and gears and help them last longer.
- **Protect your bike from the elements** when you are not riding to avoid rust.
- **Clean your bike** regularly, particularly after rain. Wipe the chain with a rag & **reapply lubricant**.
- **Keep the tires properly inflated:** Top off your tire pressure monthly. Check the suggested pressure range on your tire sidewall.
- **Inspect twice a year:** Tire tread, chain wear, brake pads, bearings. Since ebikes are heavier and faster than pedal bikes, the **brakes will wear down faster. So will the chain**. Get them checked out by a bike shop several times a year.

Find more helpful guidance to buy, protect, maintain and get the most performance out of your e-bike at the [ClimateAction Center E-Bike Guide](#)

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