

BIKE PARKING

WHY SHOULD YOU BUILD BIKE PARKING FACILITIES?

Bicycling is a convenient, healthy, and fun way to get around. High-quality bicycle infrastructure encourages more individuals to bike regularly and helps them feel safe doing so.

Bicycle parking is critical for people to use bicycles as transportation. The fear of theft can deter someone from biking, but high quality bike parking will encourage people to bike. Providing designated bike parking can also discourage inappropriate or illegal parking to benches, accessible ramps, or private property.



WHERE SHOULD YOU BUILD BIKE PARKING FACILITIES?

Poorly placed bike racks may go unused. There are several things to consider to ensure a bike rack is more appealing than the nearest sign post or tree.

VISIBILITY: Bike racks should be located in visible and well-lit areas near pedestrian traffic.

CONVENIENCE: Bike racks should be located near the entrance of the destination – ideally 25' or fewer from the entrance and at most 50' from the entrance.



WHAT TYPE OF RACKS SHOULD YOU INSTALL?

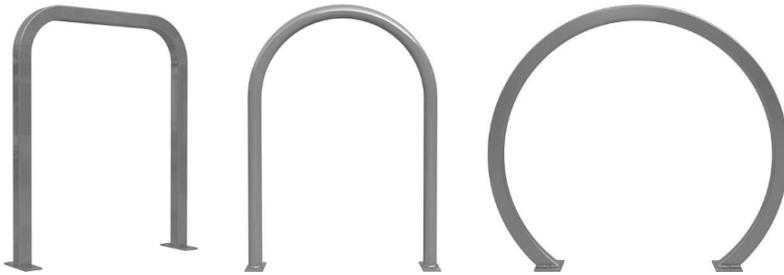
Bike racks must provide **two points of contact** with the bike frame and allow the use of a U-lock around the frame and at least one of the wheels. Bikes parked to racks that do not provide two points of contact may fall over and block the pedestrian right away. Bikes that fall over are also more likely to be damaged.

On public right-of-ways, we strongly encourage installing the City of Boston standard rack: a black powder-coated hitch rack. For other acceptable racks, see below.

RECOMMENDED SINGLE RACKS



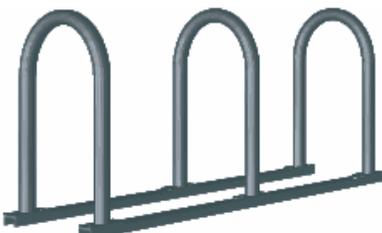
The hitch rack is the current City of Boston standard and is preferred on public right-of-ways.



Inverted U racks and arc racks are also acceptable.

RECOMMENDED MULTI RACKS

Inverted U racks attached to a sleds and helix racks are acceptable multi-racks. They allow you to provide more bike parking with less work. They can only be installed on sidewalks that are 150" or wider or on private property.

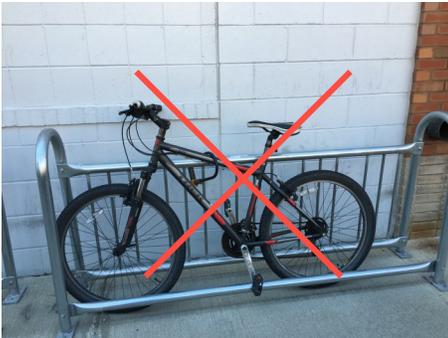
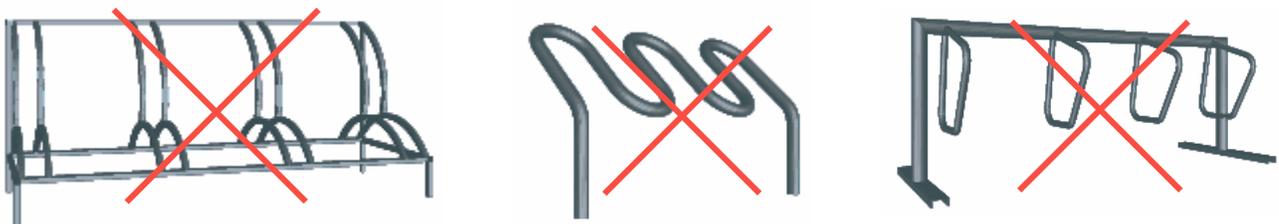


These racks are best on private property.

UNACCEPTABLE RACKS

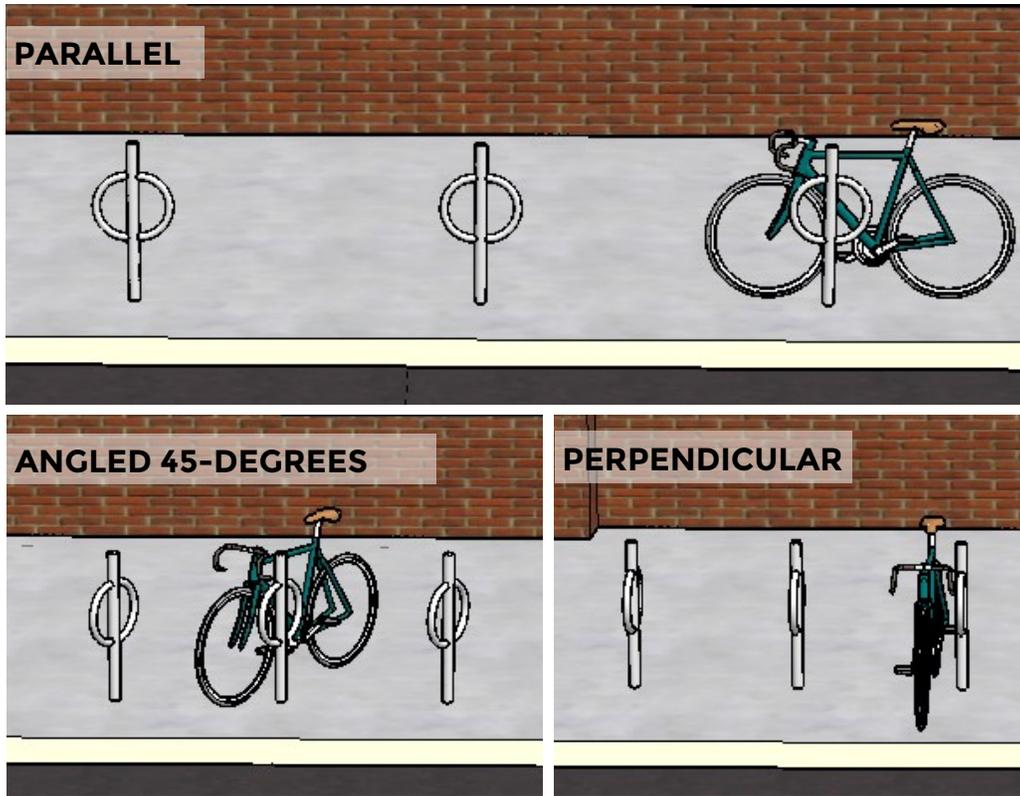
These racks do not provide adequate support. Poor rack designs often have less-than-advertised capacity due to the narrow spacing, and do not accommodate a variety of bike sizes and types. Additionally, bikes can easily fall over and be damaged or hang into the pedestrian right of way.

Do not install these racks.



HOW TO INSTALL ON-STREET BIKE PARKING

Bicycle racks can be installed **parallel, perpendicular, or angled at 45-degrees** to the curb. Bicycles are parked in the same orientation as the rack. The orientation of the rack depends on the width of the sidewalk and other objects on the sidewalk.



REQUIRED CLEARANCES (FROM EDGE OF RACK TO OBJECT)

Bike racks installed adjacent to other objects on the sidewalk must be:

- 5' from:** crosswalks, fire hydrants
- 4' from:** bus stops and shelters, loading zones
- 3' from:** accessible parking (HP) spaces, driveways, light poles, sign posts, trash cans, tree pits, mailboxes, and other street furniture

GUIDELINES

The most crucial step is to measure the area where you plan to install bike parking. A sidewalk must be at least **93" wide to accommodate a bike rack**.

Locate bike racks between car parking spaces to avoid conflicts with car doors.

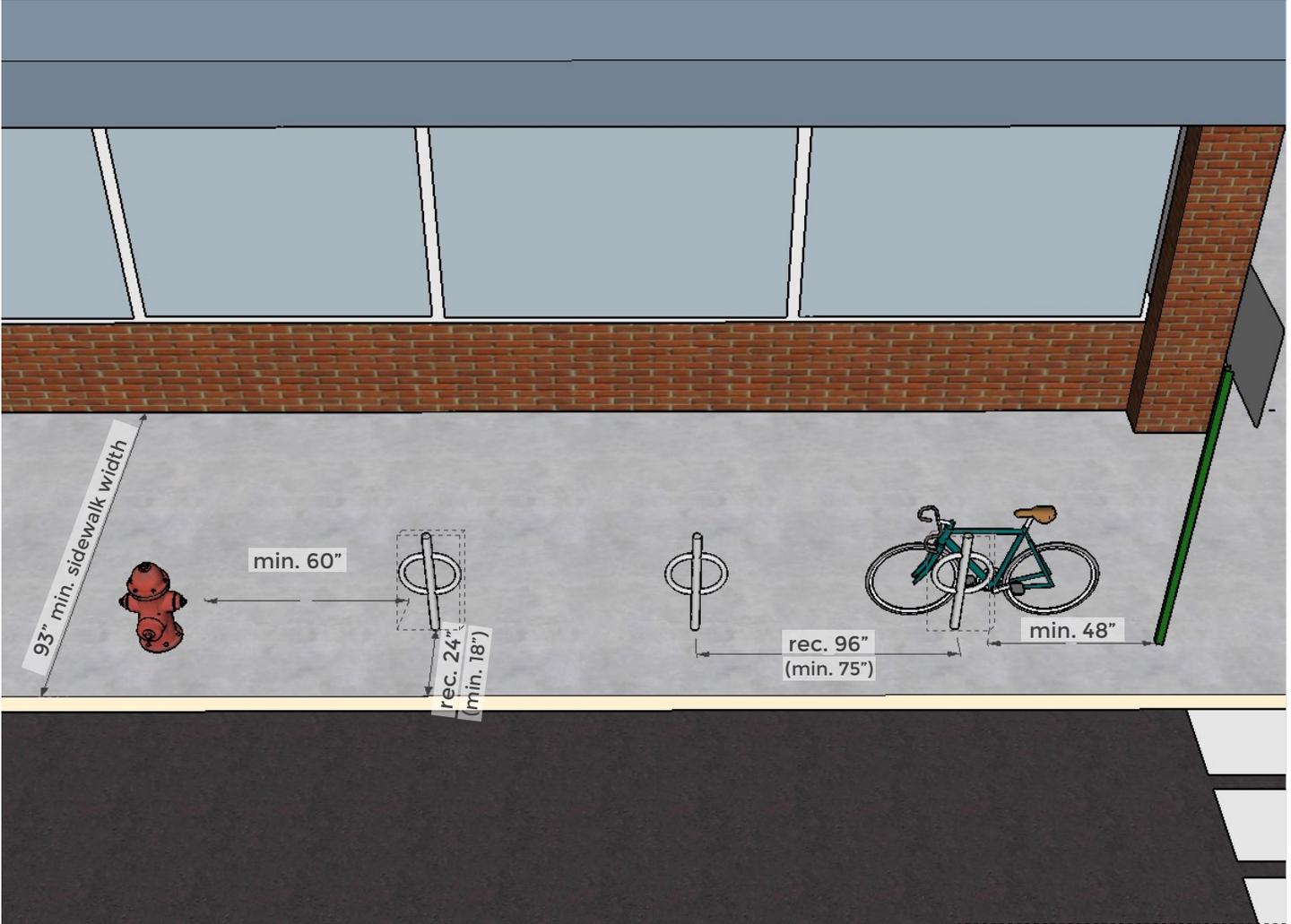
If you are installing more than 4 racks, cluster them in groups of 3 or 4 and ensure clearance between clusters so people walking are able to pass.

If you are installing on brick, you must use an in-ground mount.

PARALLEL TO THE CURB

To install racks parallel to the curb, the sidewalk must be at least **93" wide**.

If the sidewalk is the minimum width, use the other minimum measurements. See page 4 for notes on required clearances.

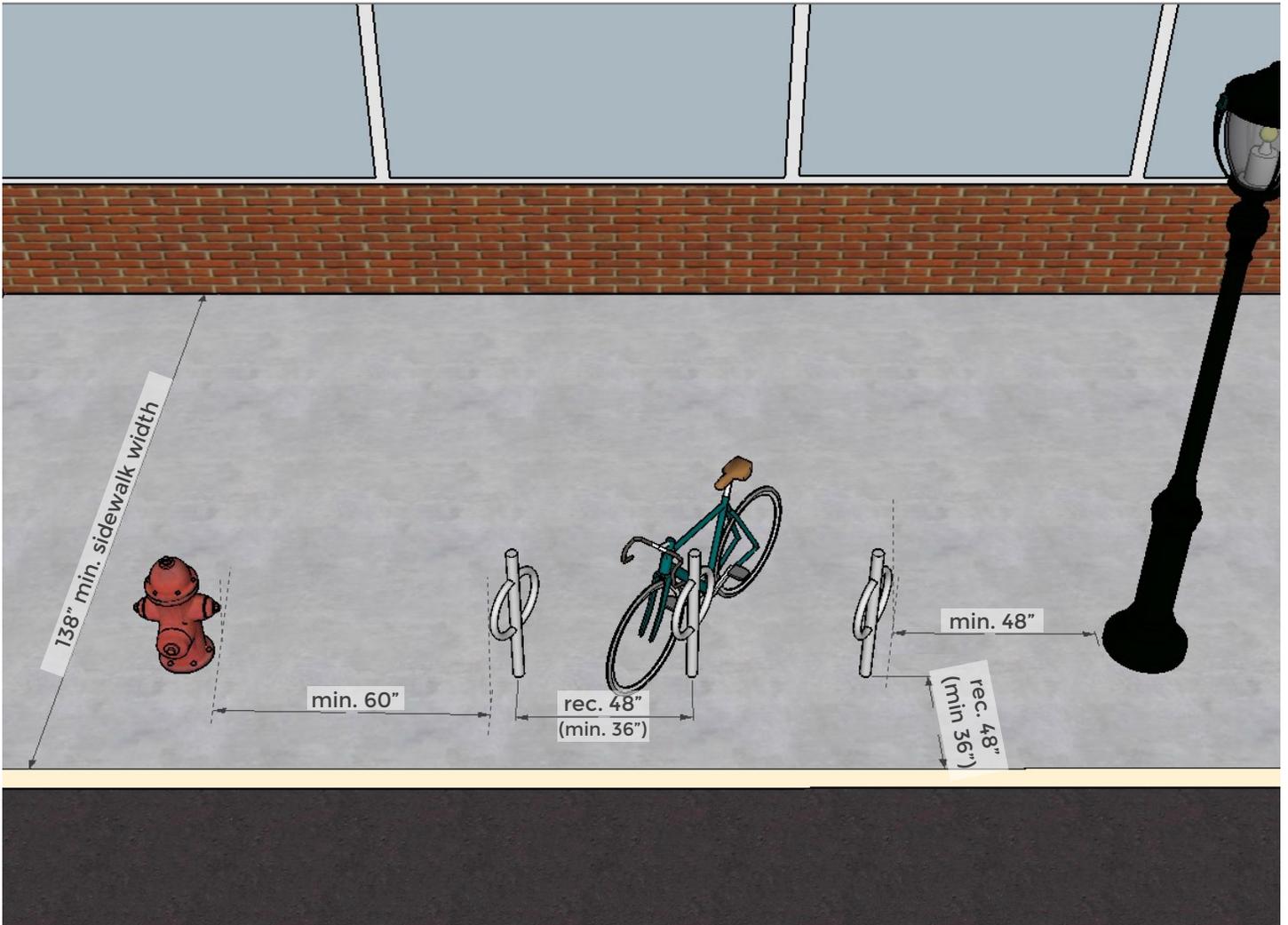


rec. = recommended width
min. = minimum width

ANGLED 45-DEGREES TO THE CURB

To install racks that are angled 45-degrees relative to the curb, the sidewalk must be at least **138" wide**.

If the sidewalk is the minimum width, use the other minimum measurements. See page 4 for notes on required clearances.



rec. = recommended width
min. = minimum width

PERPENDICULAR TO THE CURB

To install racks perpendicular to the curb, the sidewalk must be at least **150" wide**.

If the sidewalk is the minimum width, use the other minimum measurements. See page 4 for notes on required clearances.



rec. = recommended width
min. = minimum width

GENERAL INSTALLATION GUIDELINES

The best surface on which to install a bike rack is **concrete**. With concrete surfaces, you can use either in-ground or surface mounts.

If you are installing on **brick, asphalt, or tile**, you must use an **in-ground mount**.

If you are installing on organic matter like grass, dirt, or mulch, you must first pour a concrete pad for the rack.



Image credit: DERO

ABOVE ALL, ALWAYS FOLLOW MANUFACTURER'S INSTRUCTIONS FOR PROPER RACK INSTALLATION. FAILURE TO DO SO MAY RENDER THE RACK UNUSABLE.



If you are installing on **brick**, you must use an **in-ground mount**.



Surface mounts **do not work** on brick. Regular use of the rack quickly loosens the bricks from the ground. Bikes parked at these racks are no longer safe from theft.