

4 Ways To Go For A Bike Ride.



OK, summer is here and it seems everyone has their bike strapped to their car and they're off to who knows where. Maybe it's across town to the bike trails in the local park. Maybe it's a trip to the mountains for a rugged alpine adventure. Or, how about a trip to the beach for some fun in the sun.

So, are you going to stuff that bike into the trunk of your car for the trip? Probably not. Most bikes won't fit. And what about the rest of the family? This is when we need to give some thought to how we are going to transport all of the bikes, in addition to all the people. So, one way or the other, you are going to have to strap those things to the vehicle.

There are a lot of ways to strap your bikes to your car, and a lot of that has to do with the type of vehicle you have. Before you plunk down your hard-earned money for a system, you might want to take a closer look at your options. Let's be sure this new bike rack will fit your car.

Hitch Bike Rack

A hitch bike rack uses the existing hitch on your vehicle and is probably the easiest of all bike racks to install and use, and can accommodate up to five bikes. Everything is done at waist level so lifting and securing the bikes is easy. Most popular models offer the security of not having the bikes bump against each other, or the vehicle.

Roof Bike Rack

If you have a smaller vehicle, or one without a hitch, the roof rack style may be best for you. One of the big advantages for this style rack is that you can carry a variety of equipment that you wouldn't be able to with other styles. Also, by being mounted on top of the vehicle, your bikes are spared the potential damage from dust and scattered rocks.

Spare Tire Rack

If you have a SUV or have a car with a rear spare tire, you'll be able to use the sturdy mount that is already in place for your spare, for your bike rack. But you'll have to figure out how to work around that spare tire and a good dealer will take care of that. Spare tire racks are ideal if you want to still have the hitch available for towing purposes.

Trunk Rack

This is probably the most popular bike rack style because it is inexpensive and versatile. They're great for hatchbacks and fit right into the truck when not in use. Most models can be installed without any damage to the paint of the car.

Now, don't run out and buy a bike rack right away. You need to talk with an expert about all of the ramifications of your new bike rack. There's a lot to think about and many options to consider when purchasing the right rack for you. This article will only give you a hint as to the right type of rack for the type of car you own. But there are many manufacturers of each style and a good dealer will insure that you're getting the best solution for your biking adventures.