



TIPS FOR COMMUTERS

CARRYING CARGO

Rear rack

- Your first and primary rack should load cargo on the rear of your bike
- Carry the majority of your weight in panniers
- Attach reflectors and lights to rack so bags don't obscure them

Front rack

- Your secondary rack that should be used only when rear rack is also loaded
- Low rider or standard racks are available; use what suits your preference and pannier
- More weight in the front panniers will make your bike less stable

Panniers

- All different sizes and features to fit any budget and use
- Some are waterproof but you can always buy a waterproof cover
- Make sure that your ankles don't hit panniers when attached to your bike

Packing panniers

- Load specific-use items in same pannier; one for food, clothing, tools, etc.
- Pack high-use items, such as raingear and socks, close to the top of each pannier
- Avoid packing pointed items directly against pannier that could tear them

Trailers

- Trailers allow you the quickest easy-on, easy-off carrying system
- Remember to carry trailer-specific tubes, tools and repair parts

Packing your Trailer

- Use a trailer-specific bag with sectioned compartments that will aid organizing
- Rain gear and other quick-need items can be lashed to the top of the bag
- In waterproof bags, pack heavy items towards the front of the trailer

Rain

- Avoid wet gear by packing things in plastic bags inside panniers
- Every stitch hole offers water a possible entrance into your panniers and bags
- Rain covers minimize the weight that can be added by wet packs

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bikeleague.org

