



# BICYCLE MAINTENANCE PACKING YOUR BIKE

## Tools

- 4mm, 5mm and 6mm hex wrenches and pump
- Pedal wrench (open ended 15mm wrench might work)
- Small blade or pocket knife to cut cardboard and open box on arrival

## Materials

- Obtain a bike box and plastic fork protector from a local bike shop
- Get extra cardboard boxes to reinforce inside of box and protect the bike
- Packing tape, sandwich bag, rag, bubble wrap or newspaper (optional)

## Packing

- Remove pedals, front wheel and quick release, stem from steerer tube and seatpost
- Insert bike in box; turn handlebars to allow them to fit; stick seatpost near rear wheel
- Insert front wheel in front of and just above cranks; cranks should be horizontal

## Precautions

- Insert fork protector into fork, wrap frame in bubble wrap or newspaper (optional)
- Fold a piece of cardboard and place it inside of box, below and in front of fork
- Place a piece of cardboard between wheel and frame, wheel and box

## Helpful tips

- Put pedals and front quick release in sandwich bag with pedal wrench and rag
- Pack tools and pedal bag together in easily accessible bag or pannier
- Twist tie a seatpost rail to rear wheel or rack so it can't fall out

## Potential problems

- Holes can magically appear in the box during flight/shipping allowing things to fall out
- Avoid storing helmet or small items in the box with the bike; panniers add protection
- Sealed items may explode during air transport, including tubes and lube

## Tracking

- Write daytime name, address and phone number at least four times on outside of box
- Write 'fragile' in large letters on every side of the box
- Look for bike in special or oversized cargo area of airport

For more  
cycling tips, visit  
[bikeleague.org](http://bikeleague.org)

