Ballpoint pens used to easily steal bikes

Popular U-Lock can be opened with Bic pens

By Zach Colick
Arizona Daily Wildcat

Criminals who have already had an effortless time stealing bicycles have found a new way to snatch their prey: using a special tool to open a bicycle lock within in less than 10 seconds.

The "knot" tool is effective on a variety of locks, including Kryptonite and Hiplok, and uses a foldable tool that tucks into a pocket. It also has a built-in key to open the lock.

The tool has been used to open locks in at least five cases in Tucson. It can be bought online for about $25.

"It's a great tool," said Jake Wilcox, a cycling enthusiast. "You can use it to open locks and then later at home to open your own locks."