

# Personal security



D6

## Personal security

**The chances of you or a member of your family becoming a victim of personal crime are very low. But anyone can find themselves in a vulnerable position and everyone should take simple precautions as part of everyday life.**

### On foot

- Look confident and act confidently.
- Cover up jewellery, mobile phones, personal music players and keys.
- Avoid walking home alone after an evening out. Walk with friends or take a taxi (from a reputable firm).
- Never hitchhike.
- Consider carrying a personal attack alarm.
- If you have to walk, avoid short cuts in lonely areas. Keep to well-lit, busy streets.
- Always walk facing oncoming traffic so a car cannot pull up behind you.
- If you regularly go walking or jogging, vary your route.
- Avoid using a personal music player or mobile phone while walking or jogging. They can distract you from your surroundings.

- When approaching your car or home, have your keys ready so you can enter without delay.
- If you think you're being followed, walk to the busiest place you can find or knock on a door. Then call the police.
- If you are attacked, shout for help as loudly as you can or shout for someone to contact the police. Use your personal attack alarm. Try to get to a safe place and call the police.
- If someone attempts to take something from you, consider letting them have it rather than risk being hurt.
- Consider taking self defence classes.

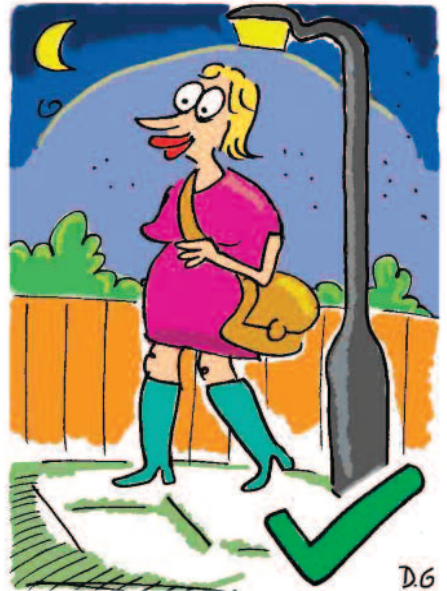


*Carry a personal attack alarm*

## Personal security

### In your car

- Make sure your car is roadworthy and has enough fuel for your journey.
- Keep a torch in your car.
- Always lock the car while you are inside it.
- Don't leave your bag, wallet or mobile phone on the passenger seat.
- Keep valuables out of sight.
- Park in well-lit, busy areas and consider the safest route back to where you have parked.
- If possible, park in police approved car parks displaying the 'ParkMark' logo. Visit [www.parkmark.co.uk](http://www.parkmark.co.uk) for further information.
- Check the interior of your car before getting in – particularly the back seat.
- If you are being followed do not stop and get out of the car. Lock the doors and drive to a busy place. Then stop the car, sound the horn to attract attention and use your mobile phone to call for help.
- Never give a lift to a stranger.



*Avoid unlit, lonely areas and keep to well lit, busy streets*

## Personal security

### Travelling by taxi

- Avoid taxi drivers touting for business.
- Keep the number of a reputable taxi firm with you.
- Only pre-book a taxi from a reputable firm. When it arrives, check that it is from the correct company. If not, don't get in.
- Sit behind the driver and stay aware.
- If you feel uneasy, ask to be let out in a busy, well-lit area.
- If in doubt, don't get in.

### On buses and trains

- Always plan your journey and try not to travel alone.
- While waiting for a bus or train, stand in a well-lit place near other people.
- Sit near the driver or other people. Avoid empty carriages or empty top decks.

- Check where the emergency chain is located.
- If you are being pestered, tell the guard or driver.
- Keep your fare money or ticket at hand so you can avoid getting your purse or wallet out in public.
- On busy trains and buses keep your belongings close by.

### In pubs and clubs

- When out with friends, keep an eye on each other.
- Don't accept drinks from people you don't know.
- Never leave your drink unattended.
- If your drink looks or tastes odd, don't drink it. If you feel unusually ill, seek help from a friend or a member of staff.

For more crime prevention advice visit [www.surrey.police.uk](http://www.surrey.police.uk)

## Contacting Surrey Police

For non-emergency calls or to contact your local police officer call **0845 125 2222\*** or **01483 571212**, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

Always dial **999** in an emergency.

If you have hearing difficulties or speech impairment, our minicom number is **1800** or **01483 539999**.

\* The cost of calls from landlines and mobiles may vary. Surrey Police does not profit from the provision of this number.