

Holiday Safety All Through the Year.

Be Street-Smart!

The NYPD urges you to follow these proven safety guidelines year-round, and especially during the holidays:



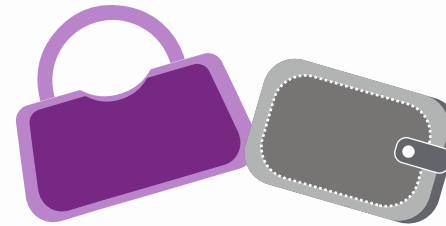
Sidewalk safety

- Be alert and aware of your surroundings at all times. Criminals often target people who are distracted.
- Whether walking, driving or taking public transportation, plan your trip in advance. Know how to get to your destination by the most direct and safest route.
- Traveling by subway at night, stay in designated waiting areas or in view of the station booth clerk. Ride in the middle subway car where the conductor is. Avoid standing near the edge of a subway platform. A lock that has a key on both sides. It can be deadly if a fire breaks out.



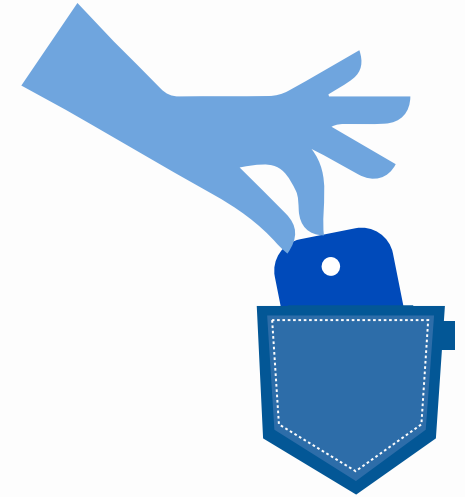
Automobile safety

- When driving, keep your doors locked and the windows closed. Make sure the gas tank is full. Maintain your car in good working order to avoid breakdowns.
- Avoid leaving valuables in your car. Never leave packages in the passenger compartment. Whenever possible, place items out of sight in the trunk of your vehicle prior to reaching your destination.
- Always lock your car and take your keys. When returning to your car, check the back seat to make sure no one is hiding there.



Purse, wallet, and handbag guidelines

- Carry your purse close to your body. Place one end of the purse in the palm of your hand and the other in the bend of the elbow. Never wrap the strap around your body.
- If you are carrying a wallet, carry it in your side pants pocket. The rear pants pocket is the easiest to pick.
- When in a restaurant, don't leave your handbag over the back of your chair or on the floor. Never leave belongings unattended.



General safety tips

- Be wary of con artists. Con artists use a number of ploys to trick you and steal your property. Some divert your attention while another picks your pocket, some pose as utility workers or as a trades person to gain entry into your home, while others conduct scams that are more elaborate involving several con artists.
- Be wary of telephone and email solicitations asking for personal information about your accounts, passwords, or social security number. Simply tell the caller that you do not give that kind of information out over the phone.
- Remember, "If it seems too good to be true, it probably is."

NYPD