



Robbery Prevention Tips for Teenagers

Be Street Wise

Everybody should feel safe and happy on the street, whether you are hanging out, or going somewhere. Some places, times of day and people can make the street feel less safe or could be a risk to your safety and welling being. Keep in mind the tips below while you are out and about with friends.

Look confident

You are less likely to be targeted if you look confident. Move with purpose and try to be aware of your surroundings.

Know where you're going

Hide it

Keep your mobile phone and valuables out of sight. If you're using your phone it's more likely to be snatched from your hand as you're not paying attention to your surroundings, so look around you.

And never leave a mobile, any other device, wallet or purse on the table of an outdoor café, pub or restaurant. Same goes for any jewellery you might be wearing – keep it covered when walking down the street.

Importantly – and this is very important to remember – if you're threatened with violence, don't risk your personal safety. Property can be replaced, you can't.

- **Trust your instincts.** If you sense trouble, get away as soon as possible.
- **Show confidence.** Walk at a steady pace, keep your head up and avoid carrying lots of packages, It can make you look defenceless.
- **Don't look like an easy target.** Robbers want someone who will provide the least resistance. If you look like you know where you are going, walk with your head up and eyes alert, you will most likely be left alone.
- **Be observant,** turn off your music or turn it down its important to hear people approach you.
- **Remain alert** and observe the people around you. Know who is walking behind and in front of you. Things to watch for include suspicious persons or vehicles, people who are wearing inappropriate clothing for the weather (e.g. a long or heavy coat in warm weather), and people just loitering around.
- **Walk in well-lit areas.** If possible, do not walk alone.
- **Be aware of your surroundings.** If you think you are being followed, go to a crowded area.
- **Don't carry valuable possessions in your hand,** put your phone in a bag or pocket don't hold it in you hand if you are not using it, if you make or receive a call keep it short or move to a safer place to make a call.
- **Do not carry large amounts of money,** don't flash your cash around