



Personal Security



Crime can happen to anyone, anytime, anywhere. The culprit thinks that they won't get caught, and the victim thinks: "It won't be me!" The reality is very different. For every crime there is always a victim. Not every culprit will get caught, but every victim will suffer.

The extent of your suffering or loss will depend on three key factors:

- Your vulnerability.
- Your environment.
- Your individual behaviour.

It's always better to be safe than sorry - follow some of our personal safety tips to help keep you safe.

Observation and Confidence



When walking in public do so in a confident and prompt manner. A thief or an attacker will seek out the most vulnerable target. When you are in public be observant. Look around you and be wary of strangers whether they are on their own or in groups. Note the nearest public building or place of safety. If you are not sure about your surroundings go back to where you came from, and seek a trusted companion to accompany you to your destination. Trust your instincts, avoid confrontation and if something is not quite right, go to a safe place straight away.

Plan Your Journey



How you are going to get there and how you are going to return? Let people know where you are going and how long you should be? Let your friends know if you are leaving with someone outside of your group.

Mobile Phones



The number one target for the street thief is your mobile phone. Avoid making or taking calls in public. If your phone does ring, try and answer it in a public building rather than on the street. Keep your mobile phone safe and out of sight.

Diall *#06# to access your phone's unique IMEI number. If your phone is stolen you will need this number when reporting it to Gardaí.

Wallets, Purses & Valuables



Conceal your wallet or purse. Carry only as much cash and cards as necessary. Keep a separate amount of cash on your person in case your wallet or purse is stolen. Do not struggle with a thief; you may injure yourself in the process. Avoid displaying expensive or sentimental jewellery in public.

Choose Well Lit Locations



Avoid darkly lit places for walking or parking. Keep your car locked at all times. Avoid leaving valuables on display in cars. If you need to travel through a poorly lit area, do so with a companion. Likewise, if you are in a group, be conscious of others walking by on their own. If you think you are being followed - cross the road. If you are being followed go to the nearest public place, like a shop, a pub or a house with lights on and contact the Gardaí.

If you are assaulted, help is available to you 24 hours a day. Call 999 or 112 immediately.

Use Your Brain Not Your Fists is a public safety campaign by An Garda Síochána that aims to reduce the number of assaults carried out by men between 18 and 39 years of age. It appeals to young men to think of the consequences for themselves and others of being involved in assaults, as statistics show a rise in assaults in last number of years in line with the rise in the night time economy.



The vast majority of assaults are carried out by men aged between 18 and 39 against men of a similar age. These assaults typically take place in and around public places (street, roads, pubs and hotels) between 8pm and 5am at the weekend. Approximately 25% of incidents linked to the night time economy involved intoxication of either the suspect offender, the victim, or both. Perpetrators of assaults tend not to repeat the crime and there is a very low level of repeat victimisation.

A short feature highlighting the dangers of assaults has been produced by Comhairle na n'Óg Leitrim and can be accessed here <https://youtu.be/lmtWJbgoVBE> or scan the QR code.



Campus Watch is similar to a residential Neighbourhood Watch scheme in that it is a crime prevention and community safety programme. It operates as a partnership between An Garda Síochána and the campus occupants. It works on the basis that every member of campus can help to improve the quality of life on site by keeping a look out for students, staff and visitors, and reporting suspicious activities to the gardaí.

