



Crime Prevention Tips

Below is a complete list of the crime prevention tips and personal safety information that is distributed on campus in the weekly "Police Pointers" fliers. If you have questions or comments, click on the e-mail button at the left.

- The door is always open to a thief - unless you lock it.
- Keep windows closed at night, or when you're not home.
- If you live in a residence hall, keep the outside doors closed and locked.
- Register your bike. It's free, so stop by the University police station to register today!
- Borrow an engraver from the University police station to mark your possessions today. This service is available at no charge.
- Don't leave valuables unattended. Use a locker or keep them with you.
- Don't give anyone your computer or ATM passwords. Avoid using family names or nick names and don't write passwords down anywhere.
- Be careful to whom you give your credit and debit card numbers - especially over the Internet. Be sure the web site is secure before transmitting any information, and always clear the form when you're finished.
- To avoid computer viruses, don't open or execute message attachments unless you can verify the sender. Be especially cautious of chain messages with attachments whose origin can't be determined.
- Report suspicious people to the police immediately - don't wait for them to commit a crime.
- If you are a victim of crime, don't be afraid to report it to the police. We're here to help 24 hours a day and can put you in touch with many other agencies designed to support victims. You're truly not alone.
- Got a tip that might solve a crime? Call Crime Stoppers at (513) 352-3040, 24 hours a day, to anonymously report your information. Collect calls accepted. Operated by detectives from the Cincinnati Police who forward tips to the appropriate police agency.
- Hang up the phone on obscene callers.
- Don't give personal information to strangers, no matter who they claim to be. If you're not satisfied with their identity, don't give them yours.
- Always walk in groups at night - two people are 80% less likely to be assaulted than someone alone.

- When walking at night, choose the most direct and best lit route.
- Always remain alert to what's going on around you. Avoid isolating yourself with headphones or other items that impair your senses.
- Attend a program or take a class in personal safety and crime prevention. What you don't know could hurt you.
- Check out Safe and Sound, a 30 minute video on personal safety and crime prevention. It's available to borrow - free - from the Oxford or Miami police stations, Lane and King libraries, all campus residence halls, and most local video establishments.
- If you think you are being followed - on foot or in a car - proceed to the nearest open public area (gas station, convenience store, etc.) and call the police immediately.
- When driving, don't pick up hitch hikers or stop to help a stranded motorist. Call and report such activity to the police using the nearest available telephone.
- Keep your car fueled and serviced to avoid unexpected problems. If your car does break down, pull off the road and lock yourself inside. Don't get out or accept help from strangers.
- If you are confronted by an assailant and decide to fight back, be aggressive! Strike vulnerable areas like the windpipe, groin, or eyes, and then run to a safer place. Keep in mind that fighting back might escalate the level of violence used against you by the offender.
- Don't fall for 21 shots on your 21st birthday - just because it's legal doesn't mean it won't kill you.
- Avoid abusing alcohol - it slows reflexes, impairs judgment, and makes you more vulnerable.
- If you're planning a date with someone you don't know very well, make it a group outing with some of your friends.
- If you're going out to the bars, go in a group and stay with them - don't go home with someone you meet for the first time at a bar.
- When at a bar or party, make sure you only consume drinks from a sealed container. Don't leave open drinks unattended.
- Rohypnol, the so-called "date rape drug," turns clear liquids blue and makes dark liquids cloudy. Inspect drinks carefully before consuming them.
- Administering a drug to someone in order to impair resistance to sexual advances constitutes rape in the State of Ohio.
- Practice good communication before engaging in sex - say what you mean, and mean what you say. Listen carefully and remember that "no" means NO, period.