

General safety tips for businesses

Your safety and the safety of others in your workplace should always come first.

These practical business safety tips can help you stay safe, protect your workplace, and support a safe and secure environment for both your employees and customers.

Staying secure at work

- Maintain a clear workspace and follow all Work Health and Safety regulations.
- Keep doors and windows properly secured and ensure all access points are monitored.
- Be aware of your surroundings and get to know neighbouring businesses so that you can share updates on suspicious activity.
- Provide regular staff training on how to spot suspicious behaviours and how to handle them safely – including using security systems and contacts.

Handling threats or aggressive customers

- Never pursue an offender it may escalate the situation and complicate the police response, and you run the risk of getting hurt or injured.
- If you notice signs of a disturbance or break-in when arriving, avoid entering the premises and call for assistance.

Working alone

- Inform someone (for example, a family member or colleague) about your schedule when working solo and notify them when you arrive at and leave the premises.
- Ensure doors and windows are properly secured and limit public access points if possible.

Handling cash deposits

- Take precautions when depositing cash vary your routes/times and avoid stops enroute to the bank.
- Consider armed-guard services for large sums.



Tasmania Police - working with you



Strengthen your security

- Install locks, alarms, motion-sensor lights, and high-quality CCTV.
- · Maintain visible signage to deter offenders.
- Keep doors/windows locked unless essential, and ensure all access points are monitored.
- Design premises with security in mind for example, well-lit interiors, good exterior lighting, and clear sightlines.

Shoplifting prevention

- Train staff to deter theft by being attentive and offering assistance to all customers.
- Use policies such as locking display cases, securing registers, limiting fitting room items, and always providing receipts.
- Display clear signage that shoplifting will be prosecuted.
- Maintain high-quality CCTV and educate staff on procedures for theft situations.

What to do in an emergency

- In an emergency, call 000 (Triple Zero).
- Cooperate with armed offenders to stay safe do not confront them.
- Hand over any cash or valuables being sought.
- If there are threats of violence or danger to life, activate your hold-up alarm or call 000 (Triple Zero) discreetly, and try to move to a safer location – if it is safe to do so.
- Observe from a safe distance and take note of as many details as you can, such as a description of the offender, vehicles, and suspicious behaviours.

Other useful contacts include:

- **Police Assistance Line** on 131 444 for non-urgent police assistance (i.e. to report a break-in or encounter where the offender is no longer at the scene) call
- <u>crimestopperstas.com.au</u> or call 1800 333 000 if you'd like to make a report anonymously
- Tasmania Police Online Crime Reporting Portal report theft or property damage online at police.tas.gov.au/reportonline.

Find out more

- For more general business safety tips including what to do after a robbery has occurred – visit <u>police.tas.gov.au</u> or download the Tasmania Police Business Security Audit Checklist and Business Risk Assessment Checklist to find out how you can improve your business security.
- Find out how to report retail theft or property damage online at police.tas.gov.au/reportonline.

