

# Personal safety tips

## Whether you are at home or out and about in the community, you deserve to feel safe.

These simple personal safety tips can help you stay safe, be more aware of your surroundings, and increase your confidence in different situations.

#### When out and about

- Remove your headphones/ear buds when crossing roads or busy intersections.
- Carry a charged mobile phone and some personal ID (photo ID preferred).
- Keep valuables in your front pockets or zipped bags, not back pockets.
- Use cross-body bags or handbags with secure closures.
- Never leave items unattended.

#### When walking

- Let someone know how long you intend to be and your intended walking/running route.
- Stick to well-lit, busy streets, especially at night, and avoid secluded areas.
- If there are no footpaths, walk facing the traffic.
- Cross streets at safe spots and ensure that drivers can see you.
- Stay aware of your surroundings. If someone seems threatening:
  - cross the street to deter them
  - seek help from others, call 000 (Triple Zero), or make noise to attract attention
  - > move to a safer area like a shop or public space.





#### On public transport

- Plan your bus trips to minimise waiting times, especially at night. Wait in well-lit or busy areas.
- Sit near the driver on empty buses for added safety.
- Verify rideshare/taxi details before boarding (e.g. for rideshares check the number plate, vehicle description and driver name/ photo match, and for taxis, check that the taxi displays a taxi service registration number). Avoid vehicles with visible damage.

#### Handling door-to-door sellers or charity collectors

- Keep interactions short and through a locked security door where possible.
- Request identification.
- Do not feel pressured to make a decision immediately.
- Avoid sharing personal information unless you are comfortable that the legitimacy of the person/business/charity is confirmed.
- Independently verify details before making any decision to share your details or make a purchase.

### How to get help

- If it is an emergency the incident is happening now, the suspect is still at the scene, or someone is injured or in danger – always call **000 (Triple Zero)**.
- To report a non-urgent safety concern or crime, call the Police Assistance Line on **131 444** at any time and provide details of the incident.

#### Other useful contacts

- **Crime Stoppers:** visit <u>crimestopperstas.com.au</u> or call 1800 333 000 if you'd like to make a report anonymously
- Keeping Children Safe: call 1800 093 758 or visit keepingchildrensafe.tas.gov.au
- **eSafety Commissioner:** visit <u>eSafety.gov.au</u> for help with personal online safety.
- **1800RESPECT:** call the free national domestic, family and sexual violence counselling, information and support service line 24 hours a day.

