



SOUTH AUSTRALIA POLICE
KEEPING SA SAFE

PREVENTING CRIME

PERSONAL SAFETY



Government
of South Australia

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Dear Resident,

South Australia Police (SAPOL) is committed to working in partnership with the community to prevent crime and reduce the fear of crime to ensure that South Australia is a safe place to live, visit and do business.

In the interest of keeping SA safe, we encourage you to read this book and share the information with your neighbours and friends.

We hope that you find the enclosed information useful when you are out and about and that it will assist you in feeling and being safer.

For further assistance please contact your local police station or visit www.police.sa.gov.au



OUT AND ABOUT

- Let someone know where you are going and the time you will return.
- Be alert, walk confidently and keep to well lit and populated areas.
- Walk against the flow of traffic and, if possible, walk with another person.
- Do not hitchhike or accept a ride with strangers.
- Be aware of your surroundings and know your location at all times.
- Be aware of your increased vulnerability when wearing headphones. Only use one earphone so that you can still hear your surroundings.
- Carry a personal safety alarm or mobile phone.
- Be wary if someone in a car stops and asks you for directions. Keep a safe distance from the car.
- If you feel unsafe head for a well populated area.
- When meeting someone new for the first time, ensure it is in a populated public place.
- Trust your instincts, if you feel unsafe move immediately and be prepared to call for help.

PERSONAL PROPERTY

- Don't carry large amounts of money. Never display how much money you have in your wallet or purse.
- Keep your bag, wallet and mobile phone where you can see them at all times.
- Don't leave your bag, wallet or mobile phone unattended in outdoor dining areas.
- Always keep your bag closed and secured.
- Carry your bag securely on the side furthest from the road. Never let the strap hang loosely. Shoulder strapped bags should be worn across your body.
- Don't leave your handbag unattended in your shopping trolley. Consider using the child safety harness to help secure your handbag to the trolley.
- Secure your bag in your car before loading or unloading your shopping.
- If someone attempts to grab your bag, it is best to let go, to avoid injury.

Trust your instincts,
if you feel unsafe move
immediately and be
prepared to call for help

CELEBRATIONS

- Organise safe transport to and from the venue before going out.
- If you are driving, do not drink. If going with friends, nominate a designated driver.
- Be aware of your surroundings, particularly if in a new place.
- Stay with your friends and look after each other.
- Set a drinking limit for yourself and stick to it.
- Have a water or soft drink between alcoholic drinks.
- Say “NO” when you have had enough to drink and don’t let others top up your drink.
- Eat before and while you are drinking.
- Keep control of your drinks and always get your own.
- Do not take drinks offered to you by people you don’t know.
- Never leave your drink unattended.
- Avoid going in ‘rounds’ with people.
- Do not walk home alone or get into vehicles with people you don’t know.
- Have taxi phone numbers pre-programmed into your mobile phone.

ATM BANKING

- Do not use ATMs in isolated or dark locations.
- Do not let anyone see you enter your Personal Identification Number (PIN).
- Memorise your PIN. Do not write it down.
- Be aware of people standing too close to you at an ATM. If you feel unsafe and have already keyed in your details, press the CANCEL key and remove your card.
- Avoid withdrawing large amounts of money.
- Ensure you remove any receipts from the ATM.
- Place your money in your wallet or purse before walking away from the ATM.
- Don’t count your money out loud.
- If you lose your card, report it immediately to your financial institution.

For a safer
South Australia
everyone must accept
responsibility for
crime prevention





If you are travelling alone at night, arrange to be met or collected at your stop

PUBLIC TRANSPORT

- Become familiar with your regular transport timetable.
- Check timetables to limit waiting periods at transport stops.
- Stand in well lit areas near other people.
- Where possible sit with other passengers or close to the driver.
- Always keep a firm hold on your personal belongings.
- If you are travelling alone at night arrange to be met or collected at your stop.
- If the behaviour of someone is offensive or illegal, tell the driver and contact the police.
- When travelling in a taxi, take note of the driver's ID number that should be displayed on the front dash of the vehicle.
- Where possible, book a taxi over the phone as the driver's details will be recorded.
- Sit in the rear seat of the taxi.
- Be conscious of your surroundings. If you are concerned with the route being taken to your destination or if something doesn't feel right, ring a friend and tell them where you are and the taxi number.
- If you feel uncomfortable or in fear for your safety direct the driver to stop, leave the vehicle and seek assistance.
- Decline offers to share a fare with a stranger.

DRIVING

- At night, park your car in a well lit area.
- Keep your car windows up and doors locked.
- Have your keys or remote entry ready before approaching your car.
- If you are concerned about your safety when returning to your car, ask a friend, staff member or security to walk with you.
- Avoid placing bags and wallets on the passenger seat where they could be easily grabbed.
- Do not respond to aggressive behaviour from other drivers. Avoid eye contact and concentrate on the road.
- Never pick up hitchhikers.
- If you think you are being followed, drive to a police station or a populated area. Don't drive to your home address.
- Make sure you have enough fuel to reach your destination and your car is serviced regularly to avoid breakdowns.
- If your car should break down in an isolated area:
 - activate the hazard lights
 - sit inside the car with the windows rolled up, the doors locked and call for assistance
 - never go with strangers - stay with your car.

Do not tick the box that allows your computer to remember your passwords

ONLINE SAFETY

- Utilise a firewall and up-to-date virus protection software.
- Program your computer with a password to restrict access.
- Change your passwords on a regular basis. Avoid using maiden names and pets' names as passwords.
- Do not tick the box that allows your computer to remember your passwords.
- Always know who you are communicating with and where your information is going when online.
- Avoid giving personal details or business information over the internet, unless it is a secure site.
- Supervise and monitor internet use and regularly check your internet history if you have children. Visit the SAPOL website www.police.sa.gov.au for information on reporting E-Crime.
- Don't give your credit card details online unless you are sure it is a secured site.
- Don't click the links from emails to financial institutions. These links may be to an insecure site. Type the web address directly into the search engine and enter through the secured site.





Home assist aims to improve home safety enabling elderly and disabled people to remain safely in their homes

SAPOL HOME ASSIST PROGRAM

The SAPOL Home Assist Program is a Home and Community Care (HACC) program that is funded by the Commonwealth and State Governments. The aim of the program is to improve home security and personal safety of HACC eligible service users to allow them to remain safely in their homes and provide a better quality of life. SAPOL Home Assist work together with local councils, health services and other agencies to support HACC service users.

This program is only available for people who are HACC eligible. To meet the criteria you must be:

- 65 years and over, or
- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people (50 years and over), or
- under 65 years living with a disability, or
- carers of people who meet these criteria.

WHAT SAPOL PROVIDES

- **Free security audits**

A police officer will come and visit you and conduct a free security audit of your home.

You will be provided with a written document highlighting safety and security issues that could be improved. The police officer will provide you with the contact details for the Home Assist representative within your local council. You may receive assistance to implement police suggestions.

- **Free group presentations**

Police will deliver free educative presentations to groups of 15 people or more. The presentation topics include:

- **Home and personal safety**
This presentation provides home security and safety tips
- **Safety for residents in an aged care facility**
This presentation provides security and safety advice for residents in aged care facilities
- **Safety in the client's home**
This presentation is aimed at carers and volunteers providing Home Assist services to clients in their home.

For information and to make a booking for a free security audit or a group presentation, please contact the SAPOL Home Assist Coordinator on 08 7322 3211.



Australian Government
Department of Health and Ageing

REPORTING A CRIME

EMERGENCIES

Call Triple Zero (000) when there is an emergency. For example any situation where life or injury is threatened, or any event that may cause danger to people or property.

NON-EMERGENCIES

Call 131 444 for non-urgent police assistance. For example reporting a crime that has already happened, reporting a missing person or making general police related enquiries.

Report information about criminals and their suspicious activities to Crime Stoppers on 1800 333 000 or at www.sa.crimestoppers.com.au. If you see something or hear something, say something. Rewards are available and you can remain anonymous.

VICTIM SUPPORT

VICTIM SUPPORT SERVICE

The Victim Support Service is a community based, not-for-profit organisation in South Australia. Qualified professional staff provide a comprehensive range of services for people who have suffered as a result of a criminal offence. This includes individual crime victims, their families, friends and the wider community. For more information go to www.victimsa.org.

VICTIM CONTACT OFFICERS

Victim Contact Officers are police officers whose role is to provide support, advice and information to victims of crime. If you require assistance, please telephone your nearest police station.

Call Triple Zero (000)
in an emergency or
131 444 for non-urgent
police assistance





For further crime prevention assistance, please contact your local
SAPOL Crime Prevention Section or visit www.police.gov.au

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