



## **HELP PREVENT CRIME**

### **Secrets No More , Heard of trade secrets?**

Businesses, companies and organizations have them..... well, so do pickpockets! Read on to find out about their secrets.

Secrets never remain secret for long and as always, our police has been able to gather intelligence on how pickpockets operate. Here are some of their secrets and police advice on how not to get 'hand-picked'.

1. Pickpockets target at people in crowds who carry cash in public especially those who have made a display of their money. So use NETS & ATM cards for cashless transactions.
2. Pickpockets deliberately bump or jostle into an unsuspecting person in a crowd. Check your wallet or handbag immediately if this happens to you.
3. They create a commotion in public to distract every body' attention while picking on pockets. Be wary of such situations.
4. They look out for ladies with dangling handbags especially handbags carried with clasps facing away from the body. Ladies, carry your bag tightly under your arm and always keep it properly fastened.
5. They prefer men who keep wallets in the rear trouser or breast pockets. So men, keep your wallet in your side trouser pocket.

The best advice is to remain alert and aware of your surroundings. Pickpockets don't deal with vigilant people. Psst ! don't say you weren't told.....

### **WHAT YOU CAN DO TO PREVENT THEFT OF YOUR VEHICLE.**

1. Remove the ignition key. Wind up all windows and lock all the doors whenever you leave your car.  
A brief period is all it takes for an alert thief to drive off your Car.
2. Avoid leaving your belongings in your vehicle.  
Never leave expensive items in the boot or anywhere else in your

unattended car.

3. Park in a lighted Spot whenever you can.  
Dark places are perfect for car theft.
4. Fit additional locks.  
Additional locks such as steering wheel lock, clutch and brake lock or gear lock mean additional security for your vehicle or motorcycle.
5. Add a security alarm system.  
An alarm system fortifies the security of your vehicle.
6. Engrave the registration number on your vehicle.  
For cars, list it on the windscreen and back screen, for motorcycles. Use the body frame, handlebars, shock absorbers, and the front and rear tyre rime.

### **CASE HISTORY 22- YEAR-OLD SANDRAL; ROBBERY VICTIM**

"I left my HDB flat at 6:30 a.m to catch the bus. As usual I waited for the lift. When the lift door opened, I entered. All of a sudden, a man dashed in and slammed the "DC" and first floor button. After the door closed, he pointed his knife at me and warned me not to scream. I had to give him all my jewellery. When the lift reached ground floor, he ran off to the car park where another man on a motorbike was waiting for him. Then they ran off. I never expected anything like that to happen and now I have a fear of lifts".

The best way to prevent being robbed is to arm yourself with the following tips.

### **WHEN WALKING**

1. Avoid carrying a large amount of cash.
2. Avoid wearing excessive jewellery.
3. Avoid taking short cuts through back lanes or other lonely places. Use crowded and well-lit areas.
4. Beware of suspicious persons loitering at lift areas, stairways, along corridors and in isolated public areas.
5. Carry a shrill alarm or police whistle with you and use it to deter the robber or to attract the attention of passersby should anyone attempt to rob you.

## **WHEN TAKING THE LIFT.**

1. Avoid entering a lift alone with strangers. If a stranger follows you into lift, quickly move out and take another lift.
2. If you notice anyone behaving suspiciously at the lift lobby, arrange for a family member or neighbour to accompany you. Call the police to check on the suspicious person.
3. When inside the lift, always stay close to the lift control panel.
4. This would enable you to control the lift in case a stranger rushes in just as the door is closing.

## **WHEN AT HOME**

1. Keep your grille gate or wooden door locked at all times.
2. Check the identity of any visitor through the door viewer and/or with the door chain latched.
3. Never open the door to a stranger unless you are absolutely sure of his/her identity. Verify the stranger's particulars and telephone the organization concerned if in doubt.
4. Inform your family members in advance if you are sending someone unknown to them to your house.

## **WHAT TO DO WHEN YOUR ARE ROBBED.**

1. Remain calm. Do not resist if the robber is armed.
2. Note the description of the robber, e.g. his appearance. Complexion, clothing, mannerism, movements and physical details. This will help the police identify the robber later.
3. Take note of the robber's direction of flights and means of escape. If a vehicle is used, record down the registration number, colour and make of the vehicle. Also note the direction whereby the vehicle is last seen heading towards.
4. Report to the nearest Police station or Neighborhood Police Post as soon as possible.

## **DESCRIPTION OF THE CULPRIT**

- Height
- Hair
- Complexion
- Face

- Race
- Age.
- Tattoos or other identifiable marks
- Attire.
- Type of weapon used
- Bulled
- Footwear.
- Any peculiarities.

### **What you can do to prevent theft of your vehicle.**

1. Remove the ignition key. Wind up all windows and lock all the doors whenever you leave your car.  
A brief period is all it takes for an alert thief to drive off your Car.
2. Avoid leaving your belongings in your vehicle.  
Never leave expensive items in the boot or anywhere else in your unattended car.
3. Park in a lighted Spot whenever you can.  
Dark places are perfect for car theft.
4. Fit additional locks.
5. Additional locks such as steering wheel lock, clutch and brake lock or gear lock mean additional security for your vehicle or motorcycle.
6. Add a security alarm system.
7. An alarm system fortifies the security of your vehicle.
8. Engrave the registration number on your vehicle.
9. For cars, list it on the windscreen and back screen, for motorcycles. Use the body frame, handlebars, shock absorbers, and the front and rear tyre rime.

### **Details to include in Reporting a theft.**

1. Make
2. Fashionable spoilers
3. Model
4. Colour
5. Registration number
6. Mudguards
7. Special sports rim