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The following guidelines will help to keep your vehicle safe and secure when parking in a public place or car park:

- Look for a car park with the Park Mark sign. These are designated car parks that have complied with specific measures to deter crime and anti-social behaviour.
- Whenever possible, park in a busy, well-lit and CCTV covered area.
- Use a mechanical or electronic immobiliser such as a steering lock. Always remember to set the alarm.
- Never leave valuables in the vehicle. Ensure nothing is left on display in the vehicle and lock all items out of sight in the boot.
- If your car stereo has a detachable face, remove it and take it with you.
- If you have a Satellite Navigation System (Sat Nav) place the cradle out of sight and take the system with you. Don't forget to wipe the suction marks off the window.
- Never leave personal correspondence in the vehicle that may give others access to important personal information and your home address.
- Use locking wheel nuts to prevent the theft of your wheels, particularly if you have alloys.
- Permanently mark all of the valuables used within the vehicle (eg. Sat Nav, CD player) with your postcode and house number/name. You can register all of your equipment at [www.immobilise.com](http://www.immobilise.com)



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## Find out more

If you would like to know more about how to protect yourself from becoming a victim of crime you can visit our website at [www.btp.police.uk](http://www.btp.police.uk)

**Or write to:**

British Transport Police  
25 Camden Road  
London NW1 9LN

**Or email us at:**

[enquiries@btp.pnn.police.uk](mailto:enquiries@btp.pnn.police.uk)

## Protecting yourself against crime



# Protecting yourself against crime

The following are some simple guidelines to protect yourself, your money and your personal information when using cash machines (ATMs) in stations:

- Never write down or disclose your personal PIN number to anyone.
- Always ensure that you cover your hand when typing in your PIN.
- Be aware of your surroundings. Do not be distracted while using an ATM.
- Never use an ATM where other people are lingering. If you feel uneasy at any time, move to another machine.
- Once you have completed your transaction, discreetly put your money away safely out of the view of others.
- Report confiscated cards immediately. If you can, don't leave the machine. Instead, call the bank from the ATM where your card was taken using a mobile phone.
- Never rely on the help of strangers to retrieve a confiscated card.
- Keep close tabs on your day-to-day account activity, and immediately report any fraudulent or suspicious withdrawals.

Bicycles are a popular target for thieves. Here are some simple tips to ensure that your bicycle remains safe and secure:

- Always lock your bicycle whenever you leave it. Lock the frame and both wheels to a cycle stand or a strong immovable object.
- Whenever possible, lock your bike in a busy, well-lit and CCTV covered area.
- Consider using more than one lock to secure your bike and ensure that you use a recognised security standard lock. D-locks, extension cable or heavy chain locks are certified locking mechanisms. It is important to ensure that yours are up to date.
- Make the lock(s) and bike hard to manoeuvre when parked by ensuring little room between the stand and the bike.
- Do not allow your lock(s) to come into contact with the ground, where they are viewed as more vulnerable.
- Do not ride with valuables in open baskets or panniers.
- Take a photograph of your bike and record your frame number and key details. This will be crucial in recovering your bike should it be stolen.
- Mark your frame with your postcode in two separate locations, one of which should be hidden. Attach a 'Coded Cycle' label to reduce the risk of making your bike a target for theft.
- Register your bicycle at [www.immobilise.com](http://www.immobilise.com)

Protecting your valuables will greatly reduce the chances of becoming a victim of crime. Here are a few simple tips to protect yourself and your possessions:

- Be alert, walk upright, briskly and appear confident.
- Carry your handbag in a secure position in front of your body. Keep all fasteners closed and ensure they are facing towards your body.
- Carry wallets, mobiles and other small valuables in a secure inside pocket.
- Mark all valuable property (iPod, mobile, etc.) with your postcode, house number/name. This can be done with a permanent marker, UV marker or engraving.
- Keep your mobile out of sight when not in use and set it to vibrate to attract less attention. When using your mobile in public, never disclose personal information (credit card detail, address, etc.) and always be aware of your surroundings.
- Your mobile has a unique number programmed into it called the IMEI. To access it type \*#06# into your mobile and note the number. This will assist your service provider in blocking its use should your phone be lost or stolen.
- If travelling late at night, try to travel in a busy carriage. If people get off, don't be afraid to move. Consider travelling close to the driver or guard to boost your sense of security.
- When on stations look for CCTV cameras and try to stay within view.
- Avoid short-cuts and dark alleys, especially at night.
- Register all your electronic equipment at [www.immobilise.com](http://www.immobilise.com)

