

CCAD SAFETY & SECURITY CRIME PREVENTION TIPS

1. It is important to be aware of your surroundings and scan the area both for potential threats, and for escape routes. Look around and observe what's going on near and around you.
2. Walk with a friend or a group of friends. Walk briskly, know where you are going, and be familiar with an area before traveling it on foot.
3. Walk with confidence—send the message that you're calm, aware, and in control. Body language works.
4. Don't leave valuables unattended in *any* place for *any* amount of time, and always keep your room locked – home or away. Items left briefly unattended make up the majority of the thefts reported on campus.
5. Report strangers or suspicious activity in the area to CCAD Security and/or the Columbus Police immediately. You don't have to be sure something is wrong. We're happy to check into it.
6. Don't let alcohol or drugs fog your judgment.
7. Avoid walking or jogging alone, especially at night.
8. Don't let strangers into any building that is locked or secured, and don't allow them to follow you in.
9. Avoid taking shortcuts through isolated areas like alleys and parking lots.
10. Park in well-lit areas, even if you will be gone only a few minutes.
11. When you take out your wallet, don't reveal your money and never leave your purse or back pack unattended.
12. If someone is following you, cross the street, change directions, vary your pace, or walk in the street.
13. When driving in your car, keep doors locked; always check around and under your car as you approach it. Make sure to look into your car before getting in. Don't let your car surprise you.
14. If possible, secure all valuables in the trunk of your car and remove the radio face and cords from view. Definitely don't leave valuables visible within your car.
15. Don't allow strangers to use your cell phone.
16. Don't give to panhandlers. It encourages them to solicit from our community and does very little to sustain them. Your money is better spent supporting the charities that provide for those in need.
17. Keep documentation of serial numbers and mark valuables with an ultraviolet pen to ensure that your items can positively be identified.
18. Use a U Bolt lock to secure your bike, not a chain that is quickly and easily cut.
19. Avoid distractions, like texting or wearing headphones or earbuds. This makes you appear more vulnerable to criminal opportunists.
20. Always let someone know where you're going—especially if you're going unaccompanied.

Remember you can *always* call on Safety & Security at 614-222-6165 for an emergency response or just helpful advice.