

Crime Prevention and Personal Safety

The London Metropolitan Police Service do an excellent job keeping London among the safest large cities in the world. But it's up to us all to ensure we're safe from petty crime and that we are obeying the laws of the United Kingdom.

In London, thieves frequently operate at tube stations, at cash machines, in car parks, around bus stations and in overcrowded areas, especially in rush hour.

- Don't keep all your valuables in one place and don't carry large amounts of cash around with you.
- When you are out and about, don't leave your bags unattended anywhere in London. As well as attracting pickpockets, you could also create a security alert.
- In restaurants, bars or theatres, keep your bags where you can see them, not on the floor or over the back of your chair. In crowded areas such as a bus or underground train, try wearing them in front of you, not over your shoulder.
- When withdrawing cash, don't let others see your PIN number.
- Don't be distracted by your surroundings and be aware that criminals may try to divert your attention.
- Register your pocket electronics (phone, iPod, iPad) FOR FREE on immobilise.com. Then, when police officers stop and search suspected thieves, we can check the serial number on the immobilise database and track you as the owner so that you can be reunited with your property.
- If you are a victim of crime, or to report anything to the police when it is no longer an emergency taking place there and then, dial 101 or visit a police station.
- In an emergency, always dial 999 straight away.

A word of warning...

- It is a criminal offence to carry weapons in the UK, even if carried for personal protection (this includes knives).
- It is a criminal offence to be in possession of any illegal substance, e.g. cannabis.
- Unlike some other European countries, it is illegal to carry CS or pepper spray (Mace) in the UK.

Would you like to assist the Met Police in keeping England safe?

Training to be a special constable with the Metropolitan Police Service will equip you with the necessary skills and capabilities you need to be there for London. What's more, it will help you develop and boost your confidence. www.metpolicecareers.co.uk/specials/

Special Constables:

- Wear the same uniform as regular police officers
- Have the same powers and responsibilities
- Volunteer 16 hours of their time a month