

Preventing theft from automobile tips

Thieves target vehicles with any personal items visible inside, including bags/purses, wallets, loose change, personal electronic devices (e.g., laptops, cell phones, headphones), checkbooks, credit cards, etc.

Follow these tips to help reduce the chance of becoming a victim:

- Never leave personal items in your car.
- If you must leave valuables in your car, lock them in the trunk before arriving at your destination, or place them in the closed glove box or center console. Out of sight is key!
- Always lock your vehicle with all windows secured in the closed position.
- Look around before you get out of your car. Be aware of your surroundings. Report any suspicious activity immediately to the police.
- Park in well lit, high traffic areas (vehicle and pedestrian).
- Lock your garage. Unlocked cars in unlocked garages are also targets of auto burglary and theft.
- If you use an underground garage, wait for the door to close before driving away so unwanted parties can't sneak in.
- Be especially alert to suspicious persons in or near underground garages. Report any suspicious activity to the police immediately.
- Lock your vehicle in underground garages.
- Do not leave your car running unoccupied. Not only is this unlawful but is an open invitation to a thief.