

# THE STUDIO Holiday Safety Tips

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## PARKING AREAS

- Park in a well-lit area as close as possible to mall entrances.
- Store your packages in the trunk of your car.
- Be sure to locate your keys prior to going to your car.
- Avoid distractions like texting while walking to your car.
- When approaching or leaving your vehicle, be aware of your surroundings.
- Make sure no one is following you home for future burglary.
- Ask security, if available, for an escort before leaving your shopping location.
- If you are getting robbed, throw demanded items away from you and assailant so they don't come towards you.

## AS YOU SHOP

- Shop during daylight hours whenever possible. If you must shop at night, go with a friend or family member.
- Walk confidently and be alert.
- Carry your handbag or purse close to your body with the clasp or flap toward you.
- Don't display large sums of cash.
- Dress casually and comfortably.
- Avoid wearing expensive jewelry.
- Avoid overloading yourself with packages. It is important to have clear visibility and freedom of motion to avoid mishaps.
- Beware of strangers approaching you for any reason. "Con-artists" may try various methods of distracting you with the intention of taking your money or belongings.

## CHILDREN

- Never allow children to make unaccompanied trips to the restroom.
- Children should never be allowed to go to the car alone and they should never be left alone in the car.
- Teach children their full name, address, and telephone number to give to police officers or mall security. Teach children to immediately inform you if a stranger is bothering them.

## AT HOME

- Be extra cautious about locking doors and windows when you leave the house, even for a few minutes.
- When leaving home for an extended time, have a neighbor or family member watch your house and pick up your newspapers and mail.
- Indoor and outdoor lights should be on an automatic timer.
- Leave a radio or television on so the house looks and sounds occupied.
- Large displays of holiday gifts should not be visible through the windows and doors of your home.
- Don't discard the boxes of expensive items where they are visible.