

**It's your money  
Keep it safe!**



Advice on preventing  
Bag, wallet and purse theft

The chances of you becoming a victim of bag snatching, pick-pocketing, or purse theft are very low. Crimes committed by strangers are still very rare and account for a very small part of all recorded crime.



You can, however, make yourself even less likely to be a victim of this type of crime by taking a few sensible precautions. Many are common sense and may be things you already do. Making yourself safer doesn't mean changing your entire lifestyle and it doesn't mean never going out at all.

You should think about how you would act in different situations before you are in them. Think about whether you would stay and defend yourself, risking further injury, or whether you should give your attacker what they want to avoid injury. All individuals react differently in these circumstances, but you should think about what you would do.

This leaflet contains some advice on keeping your property safe.



The advice given here is not exhaustive, and is not guaranteed to stop a theft taking place, but it could help to deter a potential criminal.

\* Don't carry larger amounts of cash than you need to. Banks are there for a reason - to keep your money

safe.

\* If you are withdrawing money from an ATM, be aware of who is near you at the time. Ensure that you keep your PIN safe and that no-one is looking over your shoulder.



\* **Ladies:** carry your bag close to your body, with the strap over your shoulder. Keep your bag fastened at all times.

\* **Gentlemen:** keep your wallet in an inside pocket, if possible.

\* Keep your cheque book/s away from your bank card/s. If your credit/debit cards are stolen, call your bank or credit card company as soon as possible.

\* Memorise your PIN/s - don't write them down.

\* Spread your valuables around. For example, keep your phone in your jacket, or coat, your house keys in a pocket and your money in your bag.

\* When shopping, do not place your bag or purse in the trolley or basket, or leave them lying around whilst you pay.



\* Never leave your purse or wallet unattended, even for a minute.

\* If you are using a pushchair, do not leave your bag or purse in the hood, or at the bottom of the pushchair.

\* If you use a wheelchair, keep your bag or purse by your side, rather than at the back of the chair.

\* If someone does try to take something from you, it may be better to let them take it, rather than get into a confrontation and risk injury.

**Remember, your safety is more important than your property.**

\* The number for Nottinghamshire Police is **101**. In an emergency, if a life is in danger, a crime is in progress, or to report a vulnerable or missing person who may come to harm, ring **999**

---



## **Bassetlaw, Newark and Sherwood Community Safety Partnership**

The **Bassetlaw, Newark and Sherwood Community Safety Partnership**, of which **Nottinghamshire Police** is a key member, is giving away free purse/bag cables.

By securing a purse, wallet or other valuable item to a bag, or to the person, thieves will instantly be deterred. The gradual tensioning system helps to ensure that if a thief does attempt to remove the purse, the victim will not be harmed or pulled over, as the cable extends to 10 times its original length.

You can obtain a purse cable by contacting the Community Safety Partnership on **01636 655698**

### **Bassetlaw District Council**

Queen's Buildings  
Potter Street  
Worksop  
Notts  
S80 2AH

Tel: 01909 533135

[www.bassetlaw.gov.uk](http://www.bassetlaw.gov.uk)

### **Newark and Sherwood District Council**

Kelham Hall  
Newark  
Nottinghamshire  
NG23 5QX

Tel: 01636 655698

[www.newark-sherwooddc.gov.uk](http://www.newark-sherwooddc.gov.uk)