


# Avoiding Stranger Danger Isn't Just for Kids

ALWAYS BE ON ALERT AND AWARE OF YOUR SURROUNDINGS.



You don't have to be paranoid that people are out to get you, but you should be cautious to avoid being robbed, carjacked, raped, and even killed for nothing more than a pair of shoes. Protect yourself and those you love.

## AT HOME:

- When you move into a new home or apartment, change all locks right away.
- Use deadbolt locks on doors. Secure windows so they can't be opened more than five inches from the outside.
- Keep shades or curtains drawn after dark and turn on outside lights.
- Install motion sensor lights that turn on when someone passes by.
- Don't open your door to anyone you don't know.
- Don't list your first name in the phone book. Keep your name off your mailbox.

## ON THE GO:

- Carry a cell phone with you. Make sure it's charged.
- Walk tall on the streets and stay alert. Avoid walking alone at night, dark alleys, and people who look suspicious.
- Carry a whistle or stickpin.

- Make sure your car has plenty of gas.
- If your car breaks down, call for help. Stay inside with the doors locked and the windows up. Turn on your flashers and wait for police or other help to arrive.
- If someone approaches your car, crack your window and ask him or her to call for help. Don't let the person into your car.
- Don't hitchhike or pick up hitchhikers.
- If you are going on a date with someone you just met, meet him or her in a public place.

### Action Step

Use common sense. Don't jog, bike, or hike alone in secluded areas day or night. Instead, join a club or ask a friend who shares the same interests to join you.