

Taxi driver safety

No other safety practice is as important in preventing robbery as your own training and good judgement. Experience has shown that well trained taxicab drivers who follow prevention steps can greatly reduce the threat of robbery.

Look safe

- Project an image of confidence and sureness
- Keep the trip record covered
- Always keep your windows rolled up - open it just enough to talk to people
- Always keep your doors locked, particularly if you are sitting at a cab stand or post. This will also prevent someone from entering your cab while you're stopped at a stop sign or traffic light

Spotlight crime

- Avoid poorly lit parking areas
- Avoid being blocked into dead-end streets, alleys and laneways. If you must go in, enter in reverse.
- Keep your vehicle running. If things go wrong, you will have a better chance of driving away
- Do not get out of your car and use the trunk release to open the trunk if needed

Monitor danger

- Trust your instincts
- Be cautious when fares change their destination during a trip or give vague instructions.
- If passengers refuse to provide a final destination, you may refuse to take them
- Know your location at all times
- Encourage passengers to sit on the right side of the rear seat

Be in charge

- Greet each person who enters your cab
- Make eye contact with each and every one of your customers
- Read the signals given off by the passenger: nervousness, lack of eye contact, sitting behind the driver, request to turn off the radio etc.

Reduce the cash

- Limit the money you carry or flash in the cab
- If you carry little or no cash in your cab and everyone knows it, this could greatly reduce your risk of being robbed
- An in-car point-of-sale unit that accepts all major credit cards, Interac, and international bankcards could greatly reduce the use of cash
- Do not offer to change a large denomination bill
- Use banking machines to deposit excess cash
- Do not show anyone you have money to make change
- Do not count cash in view of others
- Never tell customers you had a good (\$\$\$) shift

