

Why are Vehicles Stolen?

To sell the vehicle or parts

Often thieves will take your car out of the province or country. Identification numbers may be altered or removed, ownership certificates forged, parts sold or the vehicle repainted.

For transportation

Thieves will use your vehicle to get where they want to go and later abandon the vehicle. They may just drive it around to gain 'status' with their friends.

To commit other crimes

Stolen vehicles are used in other crimes such as robberies, break and enters, drug dealing and drive-by shootings.

For vehicle cloning

Stolen vehicles are often given a fraudulent identification number and then sold to unsuspecting persons who are defrauded of their money. Fraudulent vehicles will be located and seized by police.

While on patrol police observed your vehicle to be an EASY TARGET because:

- your car was unlocked
- your windows were left open
- your car was left running
- valuables were left inside the vehicle
- no visible anti-theft device was seen

Contact the Edmonton Police Service

9-1-1 for a life-threatening emergency or a crime in progress

Call **#377** from your mobile device or **780-423-4567** from a land line, for non-emergency

Report Crimes Online

www.edmontonpolice.ca/reportacrimeonline

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If you don't
get it, **they will**

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How to Reduce the Chances of Your Vehicle Being Stolen

When parking your vehicle:

- > Turn the ignition off and take your keys with you. A car left running is an open invitation to thieves.
- > Park in a well lit, attended area if possible.
- > Close and lock all doors and windows.
- > Maintain control of your keys at all times.
- > Turn your wheels to the side to make it harder to tow.

While at home:

- > Park your vehicle in the garage if you have one and lock it. Install a motion sensor light to illuminate your vehicle and/or garage area.
- > If you have a front-wheel drive car, park front end first, and back in rear-wheel drive cars - to prevent them from being towed.
- > Always set the emergency brake.
- > Don't leave the ownership or insurance cards in the vehicle when unattended.
- > Drop business cards or address labels inside doors to assist with vehicle identification.

Other Important Tips

- > Install anti-theft screws on your licence plate. Free screws are available at all police stations.
- > Remove all valuables from your vehicle at all times.
- > Never hide a spare key in the vehicle; thieves know where to look for it.
- > Be aware of your surroundings while driving and drive with your doors locked.
- > Be aware when purchasing a vehicle. If the deal sounds too good to be true, it probably is.



If Your Vehicle is Stolen

- > Report the theft to police immediately.
- > If your car or accessories are stolen, the police will need specific information to identify the car, parts and accessories.

You should record the following:

- Year, make, model and colour
 - Licence number
 - Vehicle identification number
 - Serial numbers of all special equipment
 - Special markings, including dents, scratches and other damage
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Invest in Vehicle Protection

By installing the following on your vehicle you greatly reduce its chance of being stolen:

- > Steering wheel lock, which prevents the steering wheel from turning
- > Electronic alarm with an immobilizer that targets fuel, ignition and the car starter
- > Vehicle tracking system enables your vehicle to be tracked electronically anywhere, by a transmitter