

West Texas A&M University Police Department

Theft Prevention

- Statistically speaking, most personal property stolen at WT consists of personal electronic devices, taken from inside University buildings.
- Keep personal property close by and refrain from leaving it unattended.
- Secure personal property as much as possible. If lockers are provided, use them instead of leaving property accessible.
- Only bring along items you need. Leave other personal items secured in your house, dorm room, or the trunk of your car.
- Park your car in well lit areas. Always lock your vehicle after parking it. Do not leave valuables in plain sight; instead, lock them in the trunk. Consider installing a car alarm.
- Always lock your dorm room upon leaving it for any period of time. This includes trips to the shower or to the dining hall. Statistics show that most burglaries DO NOT involve forced entry. Most burglaries at WT are opportunistic crimes. Never allow other people access to your keys
- Cash, computers, mp3 devices, and video gaming equipment are all items commonly stolen during burglaries at WT. Refrain from keeping large quantities of cash in your dorm room; record the serial numbers of valuable electronic equipment, and register the information with UPD. Consider engraving your state driver license number on expensive personal items.

Burglary Prevention

- Statistics compiled by UPD show that the most likely place for a burglary to occur is a dormitory room, and the most commonly stolen personal property consists of electronics.

Tips for Personal Safety

- The most frequently reported personal crimes at WT are simple assault and sexual assault. In the vast majority of these cases, the victims previously knew the perpetrator. That means that a person is far more likely to be assaulted by someone he or she knows, than by a stranger.
- Avoid going to secluded locations with someone you've just met. Meet in public areas or in groups when beginning a dating relationship.
- Avoid using alcohol or other drugs; these quickly impair judgment and one's ability to assess and react to situations.
- Be aware and stay aware of your surroundings. If you find yourself in an uncomfortable situation, quickly formulate a plan and remove yourself from the situation. Trust your instincts!
- Clearly verbalize your boundaries; if you do not intend to engage in sexual activity, say so directly and firmly.

