

Get smart, stay safe

Safety tips for residence hall life

The majority of campus thefts take place inside of dormitories, the place where college students should feel safest and most comfortable.

Follow these tips from Signal 88 Security to reduce your chances of becoming a victim of residence hall theft.



- 1.** Keep the door to your room locked at all times. Even a short trip to the restroom or to visit a friend's room is enough time for a thief to strike.
- 2.** Communicate boundaries with your roommate at the beginning of your relationship. For example, if your computer is for your use only, make sure your roommate understands your preferences.
- 3.** Get to know your floor's Resident Advisor (RA), and keep his/her contact information handy. In the event of any suspicious activity or if you know there was an incident, report it to the RA immediately.
- 4.** Do not discuss the contents of your room — specifically electronics or valuables — with people you don't know well or with whom you haven't built up trust.
- 5.** If using your laptop or other portable device in a common area, do not leave it unattended for any reason. A thief may be watching for the optimal time to strike.
- 6.** Create a private, locked area of your room where you can store electronics or other high-end items safely.
- 7.** Do not allow anyone into your room who you don't know, and trust your instincts if someone makes you feel uneasy.
- 8.** Never share or loan your residence hall room key to a friend, otherwise you risk putting your possessions — and your roommate's — into the wrong hands.
- 9.** Don't store your room key with any other personally identifying information, like your name or room number. If you misplace your key, a thief will know exactly where to go.

To report a crime, dial 911 or campus police.

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