When you’re coming to a stop, leave enough space to maneuver around other cars. If you sense trouble, this will allow you the room needed to get away.

If a suspicious-looking person approaches your car, drive away carefully. In extreme situations, you might even consider going through a traffic light, as long as you can do so without causing an accident.

Drive in the inside (center) lane to make it more difficult for would-be carjackers to approach your car.

Don’t stop to assist a stranger whose car has broken down. Instead, help by driving to the nearest phone and calling the police to help.

If you’re driving home and notice someone you don’t recognize, drive around the block and come back after the person has left.

Park in well-lighted areas, near sidewalks or walkways. Avoid parking near dumpsters, woods, large vans or trucks, or anything else that limits your visibility.

Never leave valuables in plain view, even if the car is locked. Put them in the trunk or out of sight.

Try to park in a garage with an attendant. Leave only the ignition key, with no personal identification.

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Keep your doors and windows locked, no matter how short the distance or how “safe” the neighborhood.

Avoid driving alone. Have someone with you whenever possible, especially at night.

If a carjacker threatens you with a gun or other weapon, give up your car. Don’t argue. Your life is worth far more than a car.
☐ Get away from the area as quickly as possible.
☐ Notice and remember what the carjackers looked like—sex, race, age, hair and eye color, special features, clothes and anything specific or unusual like an accent.
☐ Report the crime immediately to the police.

Take action

☐ Work with Neighborhood Watch groups, law enforcement, automobile clubs, and other concerned groups to get the word out about carjacking prevention.
☐ Contact school officials to make sure that driver education classes talk to teens about preventing carjacking.
☐ Ask the local media to air carjacking prevention tips as public service announcements, perhaps during commuting hours.
☐ Ask your insurance agent or company to provide carjacking and other auto theft prevention information in notices and bills.
☐ Enlist parking lot owners, shopping mall security, and transit authorities to print and distribute educational materials with carjacking prevention tips.
☐ Get permission to place carjacking prevention flyers or brochures in the waiting rooms of automobile service departments, repair shops, and gas stations.
☐ Ask your state’s Motor Vehicle Administration to display carjacking and auto-theft prevention advice—posters, handouts, etc., in its offices—and distribute prevention tips in all mailings.

United Against Crime

This crime prevention brochure is brought to you by RadioShack, working together with the National Crime Prevention Council (which manages the National Citizens’ Crime Prevention Campaign) and the National Sheriffs’ Association.

RadioShack has formed a special initiative with these leading organizations to provide you with answers for security that can help make your life safer.

Join RadioShack, the National Crime Prevention Council and the National Sheriffs’ Association—United Against Crime.

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National Crime Prevention Council
National Sheriffs’ Association

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