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# Counter Terrorism Awareness

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# Counter Terrorism Awareness

Although the chances of being caught up in a terrorist attack is unlikely, it is important to ensure you are prepared and know how to protect yourself should an incident occur.

Counter Terrorism Policing have released guidance on three steps to take if you are caught up in an attack involving firearms or weapons. Their advice is to “Run, Hide and Tell” which can be applied in many situations and places.



## RUN

Run to a place of safety. This is a far better option than to surrender or negotiate.

- If there is a safe route RUN, if not hide
- Insist others to go with you
- Don't let them slow you down
- Leave your belongings behind

## HIDE

It's better to hide than to confront.



- If you can't run, HIDE
- Find cover from gunfire
- Be aware of your exits
- Lock yourself in a room if you can
- Move away from the door
- Be very quiet, turn off your phone
- Barricade yourself in

## TELL

Tell the police by calling 999.



- Give your location
- Describe the attacker
- Can you safely stop others from entering the area

# Identifying and Reporting

## Suspicious Behaviour

**When identifying suspicious behaviour you should remember to focus on behaviour not appearance.**

### On foot:

- Loitering in restricted or public areas
- Paying significant interest to: entrances, exits, CCTV or security staff, taking photos
- Concealing face/identity
- Asking unusual or security related questions
- Avoiding security staff
- Activity inconsistent with the nature of the building or area

### From a vehicle:

- Vehicles parked out of place
- Vehicles retracing the same route
- Trust your instincts, if you see anything suspicious take action.

### Reporting suspicious behaviour

- Who did you see, what did they look like, what were they wearing?
- What have you seen, what has happened, what is it that made you suspicious?
- Where did the situation happen and where were you?
- When did it happen - what time?

Don't be afraid and don't worry about over-reacting, have the confidence to act.

## Suspicious Items

**Hidden:** Has the item been hidden? Has any attempt been made to conceal the item from view or place where accidental discovery is unlikely? Innocent items are not usually hidden deliberately.

**Obvious:** Is the item obviously suspicious? Can wiring or batteries be seen? Is it taped or contains liquids or powders? Has it been found after seeing suspicious behaviour?

**Typical:** Is the item typical of what you might reasonably expect to find in the location? Also consider the current threat? Ask has anyone left the item?

### Actions to take if you believe the item is suspicious

**Confirm** that the item is suspicious

**Clear** the area to the best of your ability. Do not touch the item and leave it in place.

**Communicate** to the police. Do not use radio handsets within 15 metres of the item.

**Control** access into the area

# ACT Awareness - e-Learning

ACT Awareness e-Learning is a new counter terrorism awareness product designed for all UK based companies organisations – and now the general public.

This is the first time the free to use, award-winning training course is being made available to the public and in total takes just 45 minutes to complete – so less than an hour of your time could help to prevent an attack or help save lives if one was to happen.

The ACT Awareness eLearning package which is devised by CT Officers and security experts was previously only available to staff working in crowded places such as shopping centres. The police have now decided to offer the course for free to anyone who wants to become a CT Citizen, so they can learn how to spot the important signs of suspicious behaviour and know what to do should a major incident occur.

ACT Awareness is made up of seven modules that take just a few minutes each to complete. Click below to register online and start learning for free.

**ACT Awareness e-Learning**



# Staying Safe

Increase your safety by gaining knowledge on how to help protect yourself against a terrorist attack. Find out below how to stay safe when you're out and about and how to report any suspicious behaviour that could be connected to terrorism.

## At events

Everyone's main priority at events is to have fun, but be aware of your surroundings and if you do see something that concerns you report it immediately to security staff.

### Tips:

- Arrive early at events to allow time for extra security measures
- Be patient with security checks and help the staff to help you. It might be inconvenient but they are there to keep you safe.
- Pack light, this will help to speed up searches and getting in
- Don't leave bags unattended or anywhere they could cause a security scare.
- Always keep some charge in your phone so that you can make a call or be contacted in an emergency

## On holiday

The chances of being caught up in a terrorist incident are low but sadly we have seen incidents take place in the UK and abroad. It is important everyone stays alert and knows what to do if the worst was to happen.

### Before you go on holiday, there are 3 things you should do:

- Check the latest UK Foreign and Commonwealth Office Travel Advice for the country you are visiting.
- Make sure you have adequate travel insurance - check the small print
- Watch the Counter Terrorism Police safety film [here](#).

## Sport events

The cooperation between the public and the police is a powerful defence. Fans can play their part by remembering these tactics:

- Arrive early, allowing more time for security checks
- Minimise what you carry, fewer bag searches will speed up entry to the ground
- Be vigilant at all times and if you see anything suspicious, tell a steward right away
- If you see anything that could pose an immediate threat to safety, call 999
- In an emergency, listen to the Public Address instructions and follow them
- If told to evacuate, do so immediately, do not wait around to film events on your mobile
- Move right away from the stadium as quickly as possible for your safety and to allow clear access for any emergency vehicles

Find out more:

[www.learningskillspartnership.com](http://www.learningskillspartnership.com)

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