



# 5 ways to prevent your laptop from being stolen

When your laptop gets stolen, you lose a lot more than your computer and the cost of the replacement; that's why it makes sense to take these simple steps to protect it.

**1. DON'T let your computer out of your sight even for a moment.**

Wi-Fi hotspots like coffee shops can be distracting and are prime hangouts for laptop thieves. Don't leave it on a table to get a refill and don't put it on the floor behind your chair.

**2. DON'T leave it on the seat of your car.**

Hide it under the seat or in the boot or you could end up with a stolen laptop AND a broken car window.

**3. DON'T leave it in your hotel room unless you've secured it with a laptop cable lock.**

If you don't have a laptop cable lock, take it with you or ask the hotel management to lock it up.

**4. WRITE your laptop's serial number down and store it safely.** It will help the police recover your laptop if it is stolen.

**5. GET a tracking device installed.**

Software can be added that will track your laptop's location if it is stolen. Some products will even wipe your data for added peace of mind.

**AND FINALLY...**

don't forget to back up your files and keep a copy of the backup in a separate location away from your laptop (not in your laptop bag because it may get stolen along with the laptop itself). This won't prevent your laptop from being stolen, but it will take a lot of the sting out of losing it.

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