

# PUBLIC TRANSIT SAFETY TIPS

*Whether you're a regular transit user in your daily routine, or a new rider unfamiliar with riding transit, knowing how to stay safe on transit is important and easy. These 15 tips offer you the skills you need to have a safe, enjoyable ride:*

## 1] Ride with respect

Being respectful of other commuters will make for a more enjoyable experience for everyone. The following are examples of public transportation etiquette:

- Offer your seat to elderly or disabled passengers.
- If the train or bus is crowded, make sure you leave room for people to move around you.
- Do not use multiple seats for your bags. Be considerate of other people who are boarding the train or bus & are looking for a seat.
- Always cover your mouth when you sneeze or cough.
- If listening to electronic devices, use headphones that cannot be heard by other passengers.
- Be courteous when talking on your mobile phone.

## 2] Plan your route ahead of time

Know the route, departure times, pick up locations, and how much money and change you will need to pay. Key is to prevent distraction and leaving cash out in the open.

## 3] Wait in a lighted and busy area

If not possible, wait in a nearby store or place where there are people and you can see when your bus or train arrives.

## 4] Do not run to the bus or train

Watch your step when boarding or exiting a train or bus, as there is a gap on the train between the edge of the platform and the train door. Never attempt to board a train once the doors begin to close.

## 5] Be aware of your surroundings

If you feel uneasy or threatened, change your seat or alert the driver. If needed, get off at the next busy stop.

## 6] Try to sit near the driver on either a bus or train

This allows you to more easily alert them if any issues need to be addressed.

## 7] Whenever possible, sit in the seats provided

Standing passengers are more susceptible of suffering a fall or injury. If there are no seats, make sure to hold on to the grab handles

on the back of the seats or on to the handrails on the ceiling of the bus or train.

**8] Do not put your purse or bag down on the seat next to you**  
Keep them in your lap, under your arm or between your feet.

## 9] While you are sitting

Look around for the emergency buttons and exit. Knowing your surroundings can help prevent any issues.

**10] Be aware of arguments or passengers creating attention in order to distract you**

This can be used as a way to steal from you on and off the system.

## 11] Trust your instincts

If you don't feel comfortable, don't get on.

**12] When you arrive at your stop be aware of others around you**

If you feel you are being followed, go to the nearest occupied building and ask for assistance.

**13] Carry a cell phone with you that is easily accessible and has 911 on speed dial**

## 14] Use a Bus and Train Tracker

Bus and train tracking apps can not only help you plan a speedy trip, but can minimize the time you spend waiting at an empty bus or train stop.

**15] Keep cell phones and electronic devices out of reach of others**

