



## How to report a crime

### Call 112 immediately if you have witnessed or are the victim of a crime for quick help.

- Calmly report contents such as date, location, the crime itself, as well as the appearance, characteristics, accessories, number of participants, direction of escape, etc. of the offender(s).
- 112 reports can be called from public telephones free of charge by pressing the emergency button (red emergency call button + 112). 112 can also be called to report emergencies other than crimes.
- If you can't make a phone call, you can report a crime by text messages or '112 Emergency Reporting App'.
  - ※ Text reporting : Set the recipient as '112' and send the report by text message.
  - ※ You can download '112 Emergency Reporting App' at Google Play Store or Apple App Store.
- Crime scenes must remain untouched until the police arrives to facilitate the collection of evidence. Cooperate with the police in a crime scene investigation.



## Hotline for help

Crime report and emergencies	
Crime report	112
Emergency support center for victims of school and female violence	117
School violence emergency report line	1588-7179
Hacking, spam, private information infringement report	118
Missing children report	182
Female emergency line	1366
Danuri call center	1577-1366
Other crimes	
Fire·emergencies·emergency rescue report	119
Government service guide	110
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Legal consultation	132
Youth Help Line	1388



## The Korean Police Helps to Create a Safer Society

### The police is implementing the 'Waiver of Notice of Illegal Immigrants' in alliance with the Ministry of Justice in order to protect crime victims and the human rights of foreign migrants in Korea.

- The 'Waiver of Notice of Illegal Immigrant' is a program that allows the police not to notify the personal information about an illegal immigrant to the local immigration authorities if the immigrant reports a crime committed against himself/herself to the police.

#### The applicable crimes are as follows:

- (Criminal Law) Murder, injury/assault, manslaughter, abandonment/abuse, arrest/confinement, blackmail, capture/ seduction, rape/ harassment, obstruction of exercise of a right, theft/robbery and fraud/intimidation
- (Special Act) The Act on Punishment of Violence etc., the Act on Special Cases Concerning the Punishment, etc. of Sexual Violence Crimes, the Act on Special Cases Concerning the Settlement of Traffic Accidents, the Act on the Punishment of the Arrangement, etc. of Sexual Traffic, the Employment Security Act (Article 46)

- If you become a victim of crime, do not hesitate to call 112 or contact others to get help.

### 'Assistance Center for Foreigners' such as the multicultural family support center, NGO Organization, etc. are being operated to enable foreigners to report crimes and make civil appeals without having to visit a police station.

#### Process

1. Foreign victim of a crime or legal dispute
2. Report/request made to the Assistance Center for Foreigners
3. Case forwarded to the Foreign Affairs Police Station
4. Case processed by the police or reported to appropriate organization for processing

- Foreigners can visit an Assistance Center for Foreigners to report a crime or request any inconvenience experienced while living in Korea. An assistant will forward the report received or request assistance from the police or foreign affairs police. Depending on the nature of the report or request, the police or foreign affairs police may handle the case directly or forward it to an appropriate organization.



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#### Crime report or counseling measures

- Reports related to criminal cases such as violence, domestic violence, school violence, fraud (prosecution, complaint), etc. shall be handled directly by the responsible police department.
- Details related to overdue wages, industrial accidents, residence status, etc. shall be reported to the Ministry of Labor, Ministry of Gender Equality & Family or the Ministry of Justice. The appellant may be directed to the related embassy or consulate depending on the details of the civil appeal made.

※ Locations of Assistance Centers for Foreigners can be inquired in the foreign affairs department at your nearest police station.

### The support is available for the crime (victimization) prevention training and the prep-course for the written test for driving.

- To support the creation of a stable society with resident aliens.
  - A 'Visiting Crime Prevention Class' is being operated by the Multicultural Family Support Center, Labor Status, NGO Organizations, etc. to provide consultation about difficulties and inform cases of common crimes, aspects to be considered according to the characteristics of the group such as marriage immigrant females, foreign workers, foreign students, etc. by visiting the chosen place.
  - The 'Driver's License Classes for Foreigners' are offered for free by a professional instructor so as to provide support for the written test for driving (the textbook is available in three languages).

#### Written Test for Driving

- Road Traffic Authority Call Center 1577-1120 (<http://koroad.or.kr>)
- Written test The test is available in three languages
  - ※ English, Chinese and Vietnamese

※ Inquiries about the Crime Prevention Class and Driving License Class can be checked in the foreign affairs department at your nearest police station.

### Interpretation service is provided when reporting a crime (damage) and for civil appeals in order to assist foreigners not fluent in the Korean language.

#### Interpretation Service Status

- Tourist Interpretation Information 1330  
4 languages such as Korean, English, Japanese, Chinese, etc.
- Danuri Call Center 1577-1366  
13 languages such as Vietnamese, Mongolian, Khmer language, etc.
- Foreigner General Information 1345, 1661-2025  
20 languages such as Thai, Indonesian, Urdu language, etc.
- BBB Korea 1588-5644  
19 languages such as Turkish, Polish, Hindi, Malay language, etc.

※ Report on crimes (damages) or civil appeals are handled in a 3-way call (police officer - interpreter - appellant) when the interpretation service is requested at a 112 call.

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영어  
English

# Crime Prevention Guide for Foreigners



경찰청  
KOREAN NATIONAL POLICE AGENCY



## Unknowingly Committed Crimes

### Crimes such as violence, injury, blackmail, housebreaking, property destruction, imprisonment, extortion, threatening, etc. are to receive heavier punishments in the following cases:

- Repeated offenses, joint violence by 2 or more persons, violence through the threat of collective force, or violence using weapons or other dangerous objects
- In cases of group organization, joining or activity for criminal purposes

### Weapons such as knives and spears, must not be carried without a permit.

Penalty : A fine of up to 100,000won and/or detention in accordance with the Article 3 No. 2 of the Minor Offenses Act, imprisonment for up to 5 years and/or a fine of up to 10 million won in accordance with the Article 12 of the Weapons Control Act.

### Gambling and opening of gambling places

- Mah-jong (China), Hi-low (Thailand), Xoc Dia (Vietnam), Poker and Hwatu must not be played for the purpose of gaining property or betting.
- A person who opens a gambling place is also severely punishable as a person who gambles.

### Smishing

- Clicking on Internet addresses of mobile phone messages with contents such as 'free coupon', etc. → malicious code can be installed in the smartphone → resulting in losses of small quantities can occur even without the victim realizing it, or leakage of private or financial information, etc.
- Verify by telephoning before clicking Internet sites sent by messages even if sent by acquaintances, and strengthen security settings to ensure applications are not installed unilaterally to prevent losses.  
※ Method to strengthen smartphone security settings: settings → security → device management → tick ✓ in the 'unknown origin'

### Taking possession of properties without owners from streets (bicycles, etc.) is also punishable as theft.

### Overseas money transfer between individuals without using a foreign exchange bank is punishable as a serious crime.

### Foreigners over the age of 17 must always carry a form of identification (Passport, alien registration card). Failure to do so can result in a fine being imposed (less than 1 million won).

- If you try to use an ID of another person or deceive status, it may be separately charged with obstruction of justice by the hierarchy.  
※ The National Police Agency and the Ministry of Justice (Immigration Policy Headquarters) can jointly use personal information of foreigners since 2014.

### The following cases when driving vehicles, etc. are severely punished.

- Driving vehicles or motorcycles without a driving license or in cases of drunk driving
- Driving vehicles (namely Daepocha) without legal transfer of ownership

### Fines can be charged in case of violation of basic regulations.

- Do not throw cigarettes, chewing gum, trash, etc. thoughtlessly.
- Do not spit thoughtlessly in public places or smoke in no-smoking areas.
- Drivers of motorcycles and riders must wear a helmet, and roads must be crossed by a pedestrian overpass or crosswalk.



## Crime Prevention in the Daily Life

### Domestic violence / date violence

- If domestic violence or date violence happens to you, do not keep it to yourself considering it an embarrassment, but contact the police or your family, relatives, neighbors or friends to ask for help.  
※ Obtain the proof of violence such as photos or medical certificates, and contact the domestic violence counseling organizations including women's organizations and the rehab centers (Hotline for Women 1366 / Danuri Helpline 1577-1366).
- If you are in an immediate danger of domestic violence or date violence, you need to escape the place first to avoid emergency so that you can protect the safety of yourself (and your children) which is the most important thing.

### Disappearance, kidnapping and child abuse

- Teach your child not to follow strangers even though they act in a familiar way, and to shout for help if they are being taken forcefully.
- Teach your child to remember his/her name, age, address, telephone number and parents name. Try to remember where your child went, or with whom he/she went out, as well as their clothing before going out.
- Ensure necklaces, bracelets, name tags, etc. with the child's contact number are not seen easily from outside.
- Child abuse—children harassed physically, emotionally, and psychologically, or when they are neglected or not looked after—is severely punished.

### School violence

- School violence means acts that may cause physical, psychological or property damages due to violence, threatening, bullying, etc. within/outside the school.

- Teach your child to do not use quiet roads alone and report damages, such as having their belongings being taken away through violence, immediately to the police station.
- It is advisable to seek testimony from surrounding friends who have witnessed the accident, and to know personal information of the perpetrator, time, location and method of school violence suffered.

### Sexual crimes (forced harassment, sexual assault, sexual trafficking, etc.)

- Even if there is no physical contact, the act of sending vulgar words or obscene photos online or on the phone constitutes the crime of sexual assault.
- Even a small prank or joke made to another person can be the crime of sexual assault if the recipient feels sexually harassed.
- If there is anyone who has been sexually assaulted around you, listen carefully to what they have to say and help them receive counseling by contacting at 112 or 1366.
- If you are a victim of sexual assault: Do not wash yourself; Do not change your clothes and underwear: And call 112.
- Write down the criminal's characteristics or appearance or anything you can remember about the incident.

### Crime Report Information

#### Organizations for counseling of sexual assault/domestic violence/date violence victims and for emergency help

- Sunflower Center 1899-3075, 24 hours**  
Sexual and domestic violence and prostitution victims Integrated support (free of charge) of investigation, counseling, medical and legal services, etc.
- Women Emergency Call 1366, 24 hours**  
for counseling and protection of victims of sexual and domestic violence · Support connection
- Child Protection Specialist 129, 1577-1391, 24 hours**  
providing protection and support to victims of child abuse
- Missing Children Finding Report Center 182, 24 hours**
- Danuri Call Center 1577-1366, 24 hours**  
provides counseling to migrant females and emergency support
- 117 School Violence Report Center 117, 24 hours**
- Korea Family Law Counseling Center 1644-7077**

### Fraud (illegal multi-level sales operators, telephone financial fraud (Voice Phishing), Internet frauds, etc.)

- Refrain from direct transactions of goods in which the consumer becomes the seller without using traditional wholesale and retail sales distribution levels in the following cases, and the encouragement of subscription as a member or sales staff of such operators:
  - When gathering members and investors in return of high profits, encouraging buying spree, forced purchase, loans, etc.
  - When registering part-timers, homebound work and employment as sales staff, etc. but in reality forcing the purchase of goods
  - When advertising products falsely or exaggeratingly as high-quality and selling at a more expensive price



### Verification inquiries of registered legal businesses

- Fair Trade Commission**  
[www.ftc.go.kr](http://www.ftc.go.kr), 044-200-4010
- Mutual Aid Cooperation**  
[www.macco.or.kr](http://www.macco.or.kr), 02-566-1202
- Korea Special Sales Cooperation**  
[www.kossa.or.kr](http://www.kossa.or.kr), 02-2058-0831

- Do not reply to telephone requests of personal information such as bank accounts, cards, identification number, etc. pretending to be from a public organization or financial organization.  
※ Frauds of bank statements and by pretending to be a call center telemarketer, etc. are also severely punished.



### Voice Phishing Cases

- Demands for a child's ransom after creating a situation when the child cannot answer the phone
- Demand for tax returns by parties claiming to be an employee of the National Pension Service or National Health Insurance Corporation
- Demands for bill/fee payment by parties claiming to be an employee of a bank, credit card company or telephone/Internet company
- Demand for personal/bank information by parties claiming to be an employee of an official organization (police, public prosecutor, etc.)
- When a friend asks to borrow some money into an account of someone else not of his/her own using mail, etc.

- Refrain from direct transactions between individuals on the Internet. When using an online store, verify its business registration details for legitimacy.  
※ Cyber Security Center ([cyberbureau.police.go.kr](http://cyberbureau.police.go.kr)) and Cyber Cop (mobile application): Inquiry of information about Internet fraud suspects and report of damages

### Theft (sneakthieving, pickpocketing, snatching, etc.)

- When leaving your house empty for an extended period of time (outings, vacations):
  - Make arrangements so that regularly delivered articles, such as newspaper, milk, etc. do not accumulate in front of the house. Close and lock any openings (milk slots, pet doors, etc.).
  - Store valuables or cash in the bank. When storing valuables inside the house, divide and store them in multiple locations.
- Be careful in crowded places such as terminals, markets, etc. as pickpockets usually act in such places.
- Leave handbags or cross-bags to the wall or sidewalk side instead of wearing them towards the road side at all times, and wear it diagonally with shoulder straps of suitable length.
- Request assistance from a police officer when a large sum of cash has been withdrawn from your bank account.