

THE DENVER CENTER FOR CRIME VICTIMS
CRIME PREVENTION TIPS FOR USING ATM MACHINES

ATM machines can provide opportunities for criminals to cause you financial, physical, and emotional harm. When using ATMs you can never be too careful.

Protect yourself by following these safety tips:

- Observe your surroundings before using an ATM. If the machine is obstructed from view or poorly lit, visit another ATM.
- Take a friend with you—especially at night.
- Have your card out and ready to use.
- Shield the screen and keyboard so anyone waiting to use the ATM cannot see you enter your PIN or transaction amount.
- Put your cash, card and receipt away immediately. Count your money later, and always keep your receipt.
- If you see anyone or anything suspicious, cancel your transaction and leave immediately. If anyone follows you after making a transaction, go to a crowded, well-lit area and call the police. Call the bank to make them aware of possible problems.
- When using an enclosed ATM that requires your card to open the door, avoid letting strangers follow you inside.
- When using a drive-up ATM, make sure all passenger car doors are locked and windows are up.
- Do not leave your car unlocked or engine running when you leave it to use an ATM.
- While many ATMs are available 24 hours a day, some may be open only during local business hours. To be on the safe side, plan your withdrawals ahead of time.
- Check with your financial institution to determine what the daily limit of funds that can be withdrawn from your account is.
- When walking away from the ATM, stay alert and walk confidently Use a route that is well lit.
- If you are returning to your car, have your keys in your hand, check to see that no one is hiding by your car, and lock the car door immediately upon entering.