

BE AWARE

A GUIDE TO PICK POCKET TACTICS



BRITISH
TRANSPORT
POLICE

THE SHIELD

Thief uses a coat/bag newspaper to shield their actions.



THE DISTRACTION

One thief asks the victim for help/directions whilst another steals the item.



THE BLOCKER

One thief will block the victim from moving forward whilst the other takes the item. A third thief may prevent the victim moving sideways.



THE SLEEPER

A thief or group of them move down trains looking for people sleeping to steal from.



MOBILE PHONES

- ✓ Always keep your phone out of sight when not in use (avoid your back pocket)
- ✓ Avoid using in crowded places or when it is unsafe to do so
- ✓ Register all your electrical items at immobilise.com – if it is stolen we are more likely to find it
- ✓ Record your IMEI number. Dial*#06# to get this



BAGS

- ✓ Keep all zips closed
- ✓ Place your wallet/purse/phone in a zipped or buttoned inner pocket where possible
- ✓ If you have to put your bag down place it between your legs where you can feel it at all times
- ✓ Never carry valuables in pockets that can be easily accessed or opened



OTHER TIPS

Stay awake

Be aware of your surroundings

Register your oyster card

Password protect items

Pay particular attention to your possessions in crowded places, when entering or exiting trains or when they come to a stop

For more crime prevention tips and information on how pickpockets operate visit www.btp.police.uk/theft

REPORTING

- ▶ If you think your property has been lost – make a report for free at missingx.com. You will get a reference number for your insurance company
- ▶ If you think your property has been stolen on a tube or train contact British Transport Police text **61016** or report the crime online at www.btp.police.uk
- ▶ If on the street, bus or taxi call **101**
- ▶ Always dial **999** in an emergency

BE AWARE THIEVES

SEE THEIR TRICKS HERE

btp.police.uk/theft