Puget Sound Auto Theft Task Force

Covering all of Pierce County and South King County communities.

Prevent Vehicle Theft

Tips on what you can do to reduce the chances of your vehicle being stolen and ways to protect yourself when purchasing a vehicle through a private seller.

Puget Sound Auto Theft Task Force Tip Line:
253-329-2442

Catalytic Converter Theft Protection

- Catalytic converters contain valuable metals (platinum, rhodium and palladium)
- Follow the same tips for protecting your vehicle from theft.
- Etch your vehicle identification number (VIN) on the converter.
- Install a shield or other anti-theft device.

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Tips to Protect Your Vehicle

- Remove or Hide All Valuables
- Lock Your Vehicle
- Do Not Leave Keys or Fobs in Your Vehicle
- Do Not Leave Your Vehicle Running Unattended
- Use Anti-Theft Devices
- Park in Well Lit Areas

Tips to Protect Yourself

When buying a vehicle from a private seller:

- If the price sounds too good to be true- it might be stolen.
- If the seller claims "lost" or "no title" it might be stolen
- Verify that the Vehicle Identification Number (VIN) is present and intact
- Check the VIN through NICB's Free VIN Check at https://www.nicb.org/vincheck
- Check to see if the seller's name matches the paperwork
- Ask to see and photograph the seller's identification
- If the seller balks at any of these precautions, leave and call the tip line immediately with all the information you have.

Anti-Theft Devices

- Audible & Visual Alarms
- Fuel Disabler
- Battery Disabler
- Pedal Locking Device
- Steering Wheel Locking Device
- Trailer Lock
- Location Tracking Device

Marked Safe From My Car Being Stolen Today