

**GET** THE  
**F.A.C.T.s**  
The Florida Anti-Car Theft Committee

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Protect  
yourself against  
auto **theft**



**park smart**  
prevent **auto theft**

Presented by the Florida Anti-Car Theft Committee (F.A.C.T.)  
and the Florida Motor Vehicle Theft Prevention Authority.



# A vehicle is stolen approximately every 27 seconds.\* Don't become a statistic.

## “Park Smart” With These Tips

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- Park in secured, well-lighted areas. Over 50 percent of vehicle thefts happen at night.
- Close all windows, lock all doors and take the keys with you. In Florida, 25 percent of stolen vehicles had the keys in them.
- Don't leave your original registration or title in your car. File the title at home in a safe place and carry your registration in your purse or wallet. When sharing a vehicle, provide a copy of the registration to other drivers to carry in purse or wallet.
- Activate any anti-theft devices you have anytime you vacate your vehicle.
- Never hide a second set of keys anywhere on your car.
- Never leave your car's engine running - not even in your driveway!
- Permanently mark your vehicle windows with your vehicle identification number (VIN) also known as VIN etching. VIN etching is difficult to remove.
- Park your vehicle in a garage if possible. Lock both your car and the garage.
- Park your vehicle with wheels turned toward the curb — even when parking in driveways and parking lots. This makes your vehicle difficult to tow.
- Don't become complacent because you drive an older model car. Older cars are often stripped for parts that are sold for two or three times the value of the vehicle.

Visit the F.A.C.T. Web site at  
[www.getfacts.org](http://www.getfacts.org)  
for other prevention tips.

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\* U.S. Department of Justice

