

# QuickSmarts

## Key Safety



You can help keep Queensland roads safe by keeping your vehicle locked and your keys secure when you're not with it. This makes it less likely to be stolen and driven dangerously.

### THE FACTS

- In Queensland, most cars are stolen from residential areas<sup>1</sup>.
- More than 80% of the vehicles stolen from Queensland homes are taken by using keys that have been left in the car or stolen from inside the home<sup>2</sup>.
- Vehicle theft is an opportunistic crime, and keys are often stolen while people are at home.
- Stolen cars are usually driven dangerously and used for other crimes.
- Keep your keys out of sight, and your home and vehicles locked.
- You must secure/lock your vehicle before leaving it parked on a road. It's the law<sup>3</sup>.

**FEWER CAR THEFTS  
MEAN SAFER ROADS  
FOR QUEENSLANDERS.**

### TIPS

- At home, keep your keys out of sight. Leave them in a safe place away from doors and windows.
- Make sure your home is secure even if you're at home.
- Never leave your keys in the car, even if it's parked inside your garage.
- When you're out and about, keep your keys with you at all times.
- There are no 'safe' ways of leaving your keys in the car – not even in spots like behind the sun visor, under the floor mat, or on top of tyre.
- Use off-street parking facilities as much as you can. Parking on the street greatly increases the risk of theft<sup>4</sup>.
- Always close the windows when you leave your vehicle. A gap of 5cm or less is acceptable.

#### References:

1. National Motor Vehicle Theft Reduction Council, Motor vehicle theft and ancillary crime in Queensland, August 2021, p 14.
2. National Motor Vehicle Theft Reduction Council, Motor vehicle theft and ancillary crime in Queensland, August 2021, p 19.
3. Transport Operations (Road Use Management—Road Rules) Regulation 2009 Part 12 Restrictions on stopping and parking Section 213 Making a motor vehicle secure.
4. Vehicle and bike security | Queensland Police Service (<https://www.police.qld.gov.au/safety-and-preventing-crime/property-identification-and-recording/vehicle-and-bike-security>)

**13 QGOV (13 74 68)**

