

You should avail of the security measures that come with all new mobile phones and they are outlined on all instruction manuals.

Your provider will block your SIM card and IMEI number to prevent your phone from being used on the mobile network.

Properly mark your phone with unique personal letters or numbers. Write your postal code together with house or apartment numbers using an ultra violet security marker pen.

Remember if your smart phone is stolen you also lose all your important contacts, messages and calendar entries etc. therefore you should retain these details elsewhere e.g. iPad, Laptop or on a paper print out. Many service providers and other third party (App's etc) offer services or tools to enable you to back up the contents on your SIM and your phone allowing you to easily recover this data should your phone or SIM be stolen.

In some cases your household insurance policy may cover the theft of your phone, however in many cases phone theft will not be included in a household insurance policy and a specialist phone insurance policy may be required.



Crime Prevention Advice

Detailed Crime Prevention Advice is available on

www.garda.ie

In the event of a theft or other crime call please call 999 or 112.

This awareness/information programme for the citizens of Dublin City is supported by Dublin City Council and the Dublin City Joint Policing Committee.

www.dublincity.ie

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Comhairle Cathrach
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Crime Prime Advice
www.garda.ie



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Smart Phones Theft Prevention Awareness and Information.



Be as Smart as your Phone!

An increasing form of theft currently happening in Dublin City is the theft of mobile phones. In many cases this theft is well planned and organised and is obviously a lucrative business for criminals in Ireland and abroad.

This information leaflet will provide some useful tips on how to avoid having your smart phone stolen. It will also advise you on what to do if your phone is stolen or indeed mislaid. You should register your mobile phone with your service provider. Take careful note of your unique 15 digit mobile phone international mobile equipment identity (IMEI) number. Remember to keep this record of your IMEI separate from your phone and in a safe place.

When out and about, keep your smart phone out of public view, be streetwise and always be aware of your surroundings. When relaxing in a bar, nightclub, restaurant etc. do not leave your phone on the table or bar or any other area where it may be at risk.

Do not leave your phone on open display in an unattended car.

If making or receiving a mobile phone call in public always do so with your back up against the wall or a shop window etc. so that you can see around you and reduce the opportunity to be attacked from behind. (This type of attack is getting more dominant).

If your smart phone is lost or stolen contact your phone service provider immediately to suspend your service and prevent unauthorised calls being made and billed to you.

Report the loss or theft to An Garda Síochána providing the identification numbers for your SIM card and IMEI number. This information may assist in the recovery of your mobile phone.

You should consider getting insurance cover for your mobile phone and other electronic devices such as laptops, iPads etc.

Your mobile phone SIM card will contain a PIN (personal identification number) that can help protect your phone from unauthorised usage. Consider changing this PIN when you first get the SIM card.

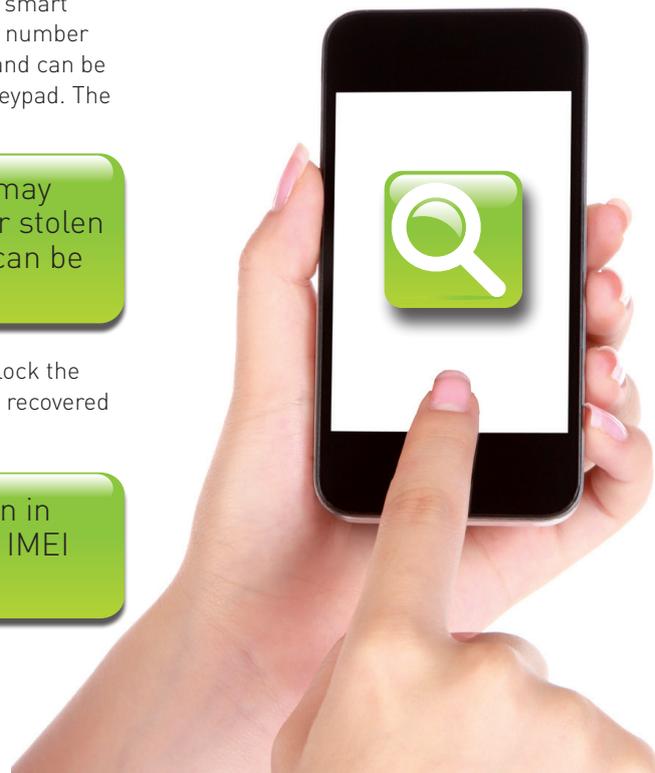
SIM locking your smart phone is another security precaution that you can set yourself (see your manual). When this feature is activated, a PIN will have to be entered on the phone before it can be used with another SIM card. Activating this feature will minimise unauthorised use of your phone.

Each smart phone has an individual serial number called the IMEI number which can be identified by the smart phone service providers network. It is a 15 digit number on the back of your handset under the battery and can be found also by pressing *#06# on your phone keypad. The IMEI will appear on the screen.

Your smart phone service provider may liaise with the Gardaí about a lost or stolen handset and if found your handset can be identified by this IMEI number.

Your smart phone network provider is able to block the use of lost or stolen smart phones and unblock recovered smart phones on their network.

Only 3 out of 20 smart phones stolen in the first 6 months of 2012 had their IMEI number recorded.



You should consider downloading a location finding app