



# Get home. Ride safe.

Rideshare  
safety tips



## Useful tips for ride sharing

1. Only use well known services, never those advertising 'lifts for cash'. These are not monitored and have no protection for passengers.
2. Share your lift with a friend if possible and choose a driver with a good rating on the app.
3. Consider using an address nearby your home to keep your personal address private.
4. Stay in a safe place and only leave the venue when the app shows that your driver is arriving.
5. If the pick-up point is a long way, or in an unsafe area, ask friends to walk you there.
6. Check that the license plate, car and driver photo match the details provided on the app. If they don't match, **don't get in**.
7. Sit in the back passenger side. This gives you more control for exiting the car.
8. Use the safety features on the app such as 'Share My Trip' or 'ETA'. These send notifications to family/friends. If your service doesn't offer these features, you can take a photo of the car on arrival and send it to family/friends. It's okay to let the driver see you doing this. If they ask why, explain that it is for safety.

### Take action against unsafe drivers by:

- ▶ Reporting risky and inappropriate actions on the ride app.
  - ▶ Reporting serious actions to Police.
9. Be respectful when interacting with the driver, put your seatbelt on, don't eat, drink or smoke in the car, and look after their vehicle.
  10. You are allowed to choose the way you are taken home so speak up if the driver is choosing a route you aren't familiar with.
  11. Don't share personal details with the driver (e.g. surname, contact details, personal life information).
  12. Trust your gut feelings. If something about the driver or the route seems wrong, send a message to a friend/family and end the trip once you are in a place that feels safe (e.g. well lit, people around). If needed, use the Emergency Assistance button on the app.
  13. If the area that they stop to let you out doesn't look safe, ask them to drive to another, safer spot.



## Carpool services

In some locations, ride services allow you to 'car pool', or share your trip, with strangers. At the time of booking your trip, you select the 'Pool' option on the app. This may mean you make multiple stops on your journey, but can make the trip cheaper. It is also a more sustainable option for the environment.

The useful tips over the page still apply to carpooling. Your safety may be increased by having others in the car. Or, the chance of harassment and danger may be increased by being with strangers. The tip below is even more important when carpooling.



Consider using an address nearby your home to keep your personal address private.



## Transport services for women

Research indicates that females are at greater risk of harm and harassment when using rideshare services. There are options available in which female drivers provide transport to women and children only.

Two options in Western Australia for 'women drivers for women', or people who identify as female, are:

- ▶ **Shebah** (also provides a child seat option).
- ▶ **'Pink Taxis'** with Swan taxis in Perth.



## Extra precautions

Some people choose to carry extra safety objects as a precaution. These include pepper spray, high-powered whistle, personal alarm to signal others, or safety apps. More information about these options can be found online.

*One of the best ways of increasing your safety is to stay alert and sober when you are out and about. Especially when you are on your own.*

**If you need help...** It's a good idea to save these numbers in your phone in advance.

## Services in WA

### Sexual Assault Resource Centre (SARC)



A free 24-hour emergency service providing medical and counselling services for people who have experienced a recent (within 14 days) sexual assault. Counselling for any sexual assault/abuse experienced recently or in the past is also available to people of all genders aged 13 years and above. Call SARC on **(08) 6458 1828** or Freecall **1800 199 888**.

#### 1800RESPECT

24-hour counselling for people experiencing sexual assault or domestic violence.

Freecall  
**1800 737 732**



#### Kids' Helpline

Confidential 24-hour counselling for young people up to 25 years.

Freecall  
**1800 55 1800**



#### Lifeline

24-hour telephone crisis counselling.

**13 11 14**



#### WA Police Sex Assault Squad

To report a sexual assault.  
**(08) 9428 1600**

After hours  
**131 444**



#### Sexual Health Quarters (SHQ)

Counselling and sexual health services.

**(08) 9227 6177**



Police assistance and reporting (not emergencies)

**Call 131 444**

**Emergency Call 000** Police, Fire, Ambulance