The Kansas City Missouri Police Department (KCPD), the Downtown Community Improvement District (DCID) and the River Market Community Improvement District (RMCID) have presented this program for the purpose of alerting citizens about the problem of theft from vehicles.

The officers of the KCPD and the Ambassadors of the DCID and RMCID feel that the key to combating this problem is to alert citizens, and then provide them with information to help deter or prevent criminals from committing this crime.

The KCPD, DCID and the RMCID are committed to working with our citizens, neighborhoods, and businesses to make Greater Downtown Kansas City a better place to live, work and play.
Theft from motor vehicles is a crime that happens everywhere. The Kansas City Missouri Police Department (KCPD) and the Downtown and River Market Community Improvement Districts want to help you avoid becoming a victim.

Thefts from motor vehicles generally occur when criminals drive or walk through areas looking for vehicles that are unlocked or that have objects in view. It only takes a few seconds for a thief to break into your vehicle.

Take a few moments to read over these tips to keep your property safe. By taking just a few simple precautions, you can take away the criminal’s opportunity to make you a victim.

**IMPORTANT TIPS**

**Always lock your vehicle with the windows rolled up.**
The harder it is for the thief to get into your car, the more likely that he will move on. Almost half the thefts from inside motor vehicles involve a vehicle being left unlocked.

**Don’t leave anything of value inside the vehicle in plain sight.**
This includes cell phones, laptops, radios, briefcases, purses, packages, GPS devices, and other valuables such as loose change. Thieves will cause hundreds of dollars of damage to your car to steal even just a few cents left in the cup holder. Device mounting brackets and charging cables left in plain sight indicate to thieves that valuables may be hidden somewhere in the car. Valuables should not be left in your car **period**, but definitely not in plain view.

**Don’t leave your vehicle unoccupied with keys in it.**
Don’t do this even for a moment. Why make it that much easier for a criminal to drive off with your car? This is especially true at convenience stores or with children in the car.

**If you have an anti-theft device for your vehicle...use it!**
If you have a car alarm, set it. If you have a steering wheel “club”, lock it in place correctly.

**Make sure the license plates on your car are properly secured.**
Make it difficult for thieves to remove your plates by securing them tightly. When your year sticker is in place, run a razor across it several times to make it more difficult to remove in one piece.

**At night, park in well lighted areas.**
Not only will this deter thieves from stealing your car or breaking in, but you will also be safer when you return to your vehicle.

**Report all incidents ASAP to the police.**
If you don’t report a crime, the Police Department won’t know there is a problem. And always make a theft or damage report for your losses. To view recent crimes and where reports were made, visit www.kcp.org and click on Crime Mapping. Theft of Vehicle, Theft-TFA (from auto), and Theft-ACC (attached to) are vehicle-related crimes on the map.

* Photos for this brochure courtesy of Google Images