

# PREVENT COMPUTER THEFT FROM YOUR RESIDENCE HALL

Do NOT let your laptop  
become another crime statistic.



## Campus Safety

3471 Mountclef Boulevard

Phone: (805) 493-3208

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## Some simple precautions can reduce the risk to your computer:

- **Lock it.** Lock your door when you leave your residence hall room so no one except you or your roommates can enter. Nearly all of the computer thefts last year occurred when a room was left unlocked, even for just a few minutes.
  - **Secure it.** Use a cable lock to anchor your computer the same way you would a bicycle. Chain it to your desk so someone cannot enter your room and walk away with it. By delaying the opportunity to remove it, you can reduce the risk of theft. Computer locks are cheaper than buying a new computer.
  - **Alarm it.** Look into buying an alarm that is secured to your computer. If your laptop is moved the motion alarm goes off and presumably thieves are not going to want to carry around a shrieking laptop.
  - **Hide it.** Do not leave your computer in plain sight in your vehicle and do not leave it in your residence hall room if not locked. Cover the computer, put it in a drawer, or place it in the trunk of your car where it is not easily seen.
  - **Mark it.** Engrave your name and other identification number on your computer. **DO NOT** use your social security number or birth date as an identification number.
- **Record it.**
    - Keep a copy of the serial number in a safe place that is easily accessible in the event of a theft. A police report is useless without the serial numbers.
    - Homeowners insurance may cover the loss of your laptop outside the home. (Contact an insurance company for more information)
    - Consider purchasing a tracking tool for your computer. These products make a "call home" over the Internet to help recover the device. Some also lock the content of the hard drive to prevent data loss.
  - Cal Lutheran currently uses Computrace to track all of its computers. Here are a few of the tracking tools on the market:
    - XTool Laptop Tracker by XTool Mobile Security, Inc.
    - LoJack for laptops, through Computrace
    - PC PhoneHome by Brigadoon Software, Inc.
    - InTracker by SyNet Electronics, Inc
    - CyberAngel Security Solutions, Inc.
    - Inspice Trace by Inspice
  - **Report it.** If you do experience a loss of property, contact Campus Safety immediately and we will assist you in filing a loss and police report. If you see someone out of place or in an area they should not be, contact your RA or Campus Safety immediately. You may also call our Campus Conduct Hotline, toll-free at: (866) 943-5787. All calls are anonymous.