

Make a safety plan to be sure you can leave a dangerous situation quickly and easily. It's a list of things to do, items to gather and information to find so that you can be sure you have all you need to keep yourself and your children safe.

1. **Have a hidden bag or suitcase that you can get to safely and quickly.** You may even want to leave it with a trusted friend. Make sure you have some of these things in it:
 - Money (enough to pay for a taxi, bus or telephone call)
 - House and car keys
 - Important documents and ID for you and any other children or family members:
 - Birth certificates
 - Wedding certificates
 - Passports
 - Driver's license
 - Pensioner cards
 - Centrelink information
 - Immigration or citizenship documents
 - Medicare card and any health information
 - Documentation on any mortgages or loans or joint business ventures
 - Bank cards
 - Important addresses and phone numbers both personal and emergency numbers such as: Domestic Violence support 1800 Respect, police 000 and emergency services.
 - Photos, baby books and other sentimental items
 - Clothes and essentials
2. **Have a few places in mind that you can go to in an emergency** and if possible practice going to them.
3. **Decide what arrangements you might need to make for your pets** if they are at risk of being harmed.
4. If you have children help them to have their own safety plan that includes:
 - A safe place to go if they need to leave without you such a neighbour or friend nearby.
 - Items they might need to take if they leave in a hurry such as small amounts of cash, emergency phone numbers and a mobile phone.
 - Develop a code word so that you can tell them to get out quickly or go and get help without putting them at risk.
 - If you are ever in immediate danger call the Police on 000.