Stolen passport checklist

What to do if your passport is stolen. Work down the list in order and tick each step as you finish it. The full guide, with the reasons behind every step, is at confirmedstolen.com/stolen-passport/.

Right away

- [ ] **Confirm the passport is truly missing and still valid**
  Search bags, hotel safes and travel documents first. The State Department says not to report an expired passport as lost or stolen.
- [ ] **Report the passport lost or stolen to the State Department**
  Use the online option on the State Department's Report Your Passport Lost or Stolen (travel.state.gov/en/passports/renew-replace/report-passport-lost-stolen.html) page; the passport is canceled within one business day and you receive a confirmation email.
- [ ] **Include a passport card if it was taken too**
  Form DS-64 covers a U.S. passport book, a passport card or both, so list every valid document that is missing.
- [ ] **Save the cancellation confirmation**
  Keep the confirmation email with your other records. You may need it when you apply for a replacement or deal with identity theft later.
- [ ] **Make a police report if the passport was stolen**
  A police report is not mandatory, but the State Department says it can help confirm the circumstances, and a copy can go with your replacement application.

If you are abroad

- [ ] **Contact the nearest U.S. embassy or consulate**
  You must appear in person to apply for a new passport. Tell consular staff your travel dates; see Lost or Stolen Passport Abroad (travel.state.gov/en/international-travel/help-abroad/lost-stolen-passport.html).
- [ ] **Gather a photo, ID, proof of citizenship and your itinerary**
  Bring one passport photo, identification such as a driver's license, proof of citizenship such as a birth certificate or a photocopy of the missing passport, and your tickets.
- [ ] **Complete Form DS-11 with details of the loss**
  Explain where and when the passport was lost or stolen. Missing details can pause the application until you submit Form DS-64.
- [ ] **Ask about an emergency passport if your trip is soon**
  If there is not enough time for a regular passport, the consular section can offer an emergency passport valid for up to one year.

- [ ] **Use the after-hours duty officer only for real emergencies**
  Most posts cannot issue passports on weekends or holidays, but every embassy and consulate has an after-hours duty officer for life-or-death emergencies and serious crimes.

If you are in the United States

- [ ] **Apply for a replacement in person on Form DS-11**
  A report does not replace the passport. You must apply in person again, and you can report the loss on the DS-11 itself if you have not already.
- [ ] **Describe the loss fully on the application**
  State where and when the passport was lost or stolen and attach the police report if you filed one. Use an extra sheet if you need more space.
- [ ] **Report online even if you report on the DS-11**
  A report made with the DS-11 or by mail can take several weeks to cancel the old passport. The online report cancels it within one business day.

Protect your identity

- [ ] **Recover other documents taken at the same time**
  If a wallet or bag was stolen with the passport, cancel cards and replace a driver's license; our stolen wallet guide (confirmedstolen.com/stolen-wallet/) lists each step.
- [ ] **Watch for identity theft and report it if it happens**
  If someone uses your details to open accounts, create a recovery plan at IdentityTheft.gov (www.identitytheft.gov/).
- [ ] **Check your credit reports for accounts you did not open**
  Request your reports at AnnualCreditReport.com (www.annualcreditreport.com/) and consider a credit freeze with each bureau.
- [ ] **Return the old passport if you find it later**
  A reported passport is canceled and cannot be used for travel. On Form DS-64 you agree to return a recovered passport to Passport Services.

Before your next trip

- [ ] **Keep a photocopy of your passport apart from the original**
  The State Department accepts a photocopy of a missing passport as proof of citizenship abroad, which can speed up a replacement.
- [ ] **Carry a spare passport photo when you travel**
  The State Department suggests getting the photo in advance to speed up replacement at an embassy or consulate.

- [ ] **Enroll your trip in STEP**
  The Smart Traveler Enrollment Program (mytravel.state.gov/s/step) is a free State Department service that lets the embassy contact you in an emergency.

Your case record

Passport number (if known)

DS-64 report submitted (date, method)

Police report number

Embassy or consulate contact

Replacement application (date)

Notes

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