

Advice for Anyone

No matter what type of work you do, these tips might be relevant to you. For specific tips based on what type of sex work you do, continue into this brochure.

- **Talk about services beforehand.** Discuss what you will do and what you will not do.
- **Trust your gut** and if a client is making you uncomfortable. If you feel unsafe, leave or ask them to leave.
- Make sure you are **paid before services are provided.**
- **Review the Bad Date Sheet** before you start work. Contact the organization that makes the Bad Date Sheet for identifying information. Consider submitting the bad dates you have had.
- **Don't wear jewellery that could be used to hurt you.** This includes necklaces and dangly earrings.
- **Don't take drugs or alcohol a client offers you.** If you would like to use while you work, **bring your own.** Try using substances that allow you to remain alert.



About SafeLink Alberta

SafeLink Alberta is an organization that works to reduce the risks associated with sexual activity and substance use. We serve and advocate for priority populations in Calgary and southern Alberta by providing education, non-judgemental services, and harm reduction programming.

About the Shift Program

Shift is a Calgary-based program that provides support to adults currently or previously engaged in sex work. The program meets people where they are at, whether they want to continue sex work, safely transition, or anything in-between.

Contact Us

Shift Program:
(403)-237-8171
shift@safelinkalberta.ca

Calgary Support Services:
1944 10th AVE SW Calgary
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SafeLink
Alberta



Safety Tips for Sex Workers

safelinkalberta.ca/shift

Advice by Profession

These tips are for specific types of sex work. Find your profession in the following section for job specific tips. Don't forget the advice from the first section.

STREET BASED

- **Let someone know where you are.** Have a friend look out for you.
- When in a car **make sure you have control over the locks.**
- **Scan the car** for items that can be used to restrain you (i.e. rope, zip-ties) or hurt you (i.e. knife, gun, large objects)
- **Suggest locations you know.**
- **Don't be outnumbered.** Do not enter a car/space with more clients than workers.
- **Get into control of the date right away.** Tell the client where to go.
- **Talk with the client first before letting them take you somewhere else.** Go to locations you know and let someone know where you are.
- **Negotiate price and boundaries with your client before beginning.**
- **Red flags in client to look out for:**
 - they have a dirty car
 - they are rushing you
 - they refuse to negotiate
 - they want to take you to a remote location



ESCORT

- **Share location with a friend.** Let them know when going in and when finished.
- **Develop a screening process** (i.e. ask for a ID, address, workplace, references from other providers etc.)

DANCER

- **Be mindful of your surroundings.**
- **Watch your drink.** Go with the customer to the bar and directly get it from the bartender.
- **Don't go home with anyone, or keep an emergency contact to tell where you are** and who you are with in case things go in a bad.
- **Make friends with your bar staff.** They are the ones who should have your back if you are feeling unsafe.

Report a Bad Date



Our Bad Date Sheet shares details of persons that may pose a threat to sex workers.

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ONLINE

- **Think about whether you want your face revealed in advertising, sessions.** If wanting to remain private, consider hiding tattoos, scars, birthmarks.
- **Remove identifying/personal items from view of camera.**
- **Use separate images** for personal online profiles
- **Search yourself online.** Work to remove any identifying information you do not want to share.
- **Set clear boundaries for yourself** (ie: set work hours, log out when you're done working, etc.)
- **Create a work identity.** This includes name, email, and phone number.
- **Be clear about what services you offer** (customs, private video call, phone sex, etc.)
- **If creating customs, keep client info** so you have a trail if your content is being pirated or sold without your knowledge.
- **Check to confirm that a cam service/platform is legitimate.**
- **Consider watermarking content.**
- **The internet is forever.** Be aware of how your content can be used in the following years.
- **Be aware of your IP address.** Consider using VPN for added safety.

