

Armed Intruder

An armed intruder threat involves a situation where an individual or individuals enter an office building or public venue with the intent to cause serious harm or injury to others. The victims are typically selected at random. The event is unpredictable, evolves quickly and is often over within 10 to 15 minutes.

Before help arrives, you will need to assess your situation and take responsibility for your personal safety and security. Try to stay calm. Trust your instincts, and use care when making decisions. It is important to understand that any action taken or not taken during an active intruder incident may involve life-threatening risk. Knowing what to do can save lives.

GET OUT

If there is an accessible escape path, attempt to evacuate the premises

- Visualize an escape route and put it into action.
- Leave behind personal belongings.
- Evacuate, regardless of whether others agree to follow.
- Help others escape, if possible.
- Warn others from entering unsafe areas.
- Do not attempt to move the wounded.
- Follow police instructions.
- Keep hands visible.
- Once you are safe, call 9-1-1.

HIDE

If evacuation is not possible, find a place that is out of site

- If possible, call 9-1-1 and notify security.
- Immediately lock yourself in a room.
 - If the door cannot be locked, barricade it with furniture.
 - If the room has no door, hide under a desk or where you cannot be seen.
 - If you are in a washroom, stay there.
- If you cannot hide:
 - Move to a safe corner to reduce visibility.
 - Keep away from windows and stay low to the floor to avoid detection.
- Do not activate the fire alarm.
- **Silence your cell phones.** Turn off any source of noise, such as radios and television.

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- Close window blinds.
- Turn off lights and computer monitors.
- Stay put until police give the “all clear.”
- Follow police instructions and be available to provide a statement.

FIGHT

As a last resort and only when your life is in imminent danger, attempt to disrupt and/or incapacitate the active shooter.

- Use aggressive force and yell
- Improvise weapons or throw items at the intruder
- Act as a group to overwhelm the intruder
- Commit to your actions

Police Response

The police will be the primary responder to an armed intruder incident. They may control entry, exit and movement within a facility to allow them to better respond to the situation. Once police have contained the situation, they may determine that it is safe and necessary to evacuate the building.

If instructed to evacuate the building, follow these instructions:

- A designated person will lead the evacuation in an orderly manner taking a specific safe route away from the danger area. Police may also be involved in this process.
- Where possible, assist those requiring assistance.
- Do not interfere with any physical evidence, such as fingerprints, footprints or tire marks.
- Move orderly and quickly to designated assembly points. You may have to provide your contact information to the police personnel and/or be interviewed. What you know may be of critical importance to the police.

Hold and Secure

When the threat is outside of your facility or immediate workspace you may be asked to Hold and Secure. This involves staying in your current location and keeping it secure by restricting movement into the space. This ensures building occupants safety while an imminent threat is in the area. Hold and Secure can take place in neighbouring buildings where a threat may be present or in the same building in certain situations.

For more information, refer to the University of Alberta video “[Shooter on Campus](#)”.

Warning:

The video simulates the conditions you might experience during an active shooter event. Some people might find the video disturbing. It might help to view the video with others, such as

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colleagues, so you can talk about it after you have watched it.

For more information on hazards in Alberta, contact your community or municipality's Director of Emergency Management or the Alberta Emergency Management Agency at 780-422-9000 (Dial 310-0000 for toll-free access outside Edmonton). You can also visit www.aema.alberta.ca.

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