Robbery

In the event of a robbery

Avoid heroics. Try to remain calm and observant.

Do NOT make sudden movements, introduce distractions, or act out in ways that draw attention, such as yelling or fainting. Do NOT argue or antagonize the robber, for example by stalling.

Do NOT make him show his gun or assume his gun is a toy, even if it doesn’t look real. Do NOT try to out-guess or out-think the robber.

When threatened with a robbery or assault, first protect yourself. Preserving property should be considered a distant second—valuable but also replaceable.

Note distinguishing traits, such as:
- Color and type of clothing
- Hat or no hat
- Beard or moustache
- Skin color or distinctive markings
- Approximate height
- Weight and age

Note the type of any weapon that is used. Listen carefully to voice characteristics and to what is said.

Note where the person headed after the confrontation. If possible, remember the type of vehicle and its license plate number.

Report the incident to authorities. Dial 911 or use one of the other ways to report a crime provided by the Virginia Tech Police Department.