

# SUSPICIOUS OBJECTS & BOMB THREATS

## EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS MONTHLY TOPIC

**Bomb threats**, suspicious objects, and bombs are meant to disrupt normal activities and cause fear in populations.

With pre-planning, you can remain calm and be knowledgeable of what to do in order to part of an effective response.

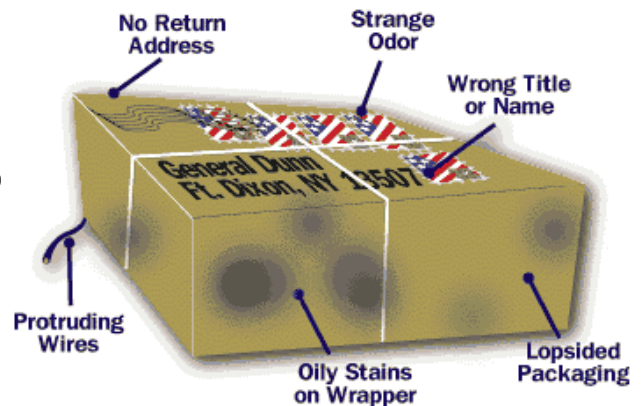
Download a copy of the [Bomb Threat Checklist](#) and keep by your phone.

*Making a false bomb threat is a federal offense punishable under United States Code 18-844e, with a penalty of up to ten years in prison, \$250,000 fine, or both. This penalty also applies to juvenile offenders.*

## SUSPICIOUS OBJECTS

A suspicious item is defined as any item (e.g., package, vehicle) identified as potentially containing explosives, an IED, or other hazardous material that requires bomb technician diagnostic skills and specialized equipment for further evaluation.

Suspicious indicators are based upon the prevailing and/or communicated threat, placement and proximity of the item to people and valuable assets, and more tangible aspects to include, but not limited to; unexplainable wires or electronics, other visible bomb-like components, unusual sounds, vapors, mists, or odors.



1. Do not touch or tamper with the object
2. Evacuate the immediate area
  - a. Look for other objects as you depart
  - b. Look around evacuation area for other suspicious objects
  - c. Evacuate others in the vicinity
3. Do not use cellular or radio communication within 100 feet of the device
4. Call OSU Public Safety (541-737-7000) or 9-1-1 to report the suspicious object
5. Be prepared to move farther away, if so directed by law enforcement

# BOMB THREATS

Bomb threats can arrive in various manners. You could receive a phone call at your desk, open a letter or package and find a threatening document, receive an email, or have a verbal threat given to you.



There are two reasons a bomb threat is made:

- The caller has knowledge of the device and wants to minimize injury or property damage
- The caller wants to create a general alarm or panic, which will disrupt normal activities

As the receiver of a bomb threat, you will not know the sender's intent, so treat every threat as if it were real.

1. Remain calm and alert others nearby that you need assistance.
2. If you received a letter or email, save all material received and call Public Safety (541-737-7000) or 9-1-1
3. If you receive a threatening phone call, DO NOT HANG UP!
  - a. Keep the caller on the phone as long as possible
  - b. Get detailed information from the caller (use [Bomb Threat Checklist](#))
  - c. Look at telephone display and write down the number.
4. Have someone call OSU Public Safety (541-737-7000) or 9-1-1 from a separate phone
  - a. Give your name, location and telephone number. Inform the dispatcher of the situation
  - b. Include any information you may have as to the location of the bomb, time it is set to detonate, and the time you received the call.
  - c. Do not hang up until the dispatcher releases you from the conversation or if you feel threatened to remain on the phone in your current location
5. Inform your supervisor and /or department head. Indicate to your supervisor that you have notified OSU Public Safety/9-1-1

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## OSU EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS AND WARNING INFORMATION



[OSU Emergency Preparedness Website](#)  
[OSU Alert – Sign Up](#)

OSU Emergency Plan mobile device app—*In Case of Crisis*

- [Apple iTunes Store \(iOS\)](#)
- [Google Play \(Android\)](#)
- Kindle Fire
- For Window Devices, [Download the PDF version](#) from the [emergency preparedness website](#)

## MORE INFORMATION

[Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, and Firearms](#) (downloadable pdf)  
[DHS Office of Bombing Prevention](#) (pdf)

If electronic copy (with clickable links) is needed, e-mail your request to [Michael.Bamberger@oregonstate.edu](mailto:Michael.Bamberger@oregonstate.edu)