

CANADIAN PASSPORT

Lost, Stolen or Damaged

Protect your identity

A Canadian passport is a valuable identification document. Lost or stolen passports are prized documents for criminal activities. Losing a passport in Canada or abroad can be a stressful experience.

It is your responsibility to protect this document at all times. Should your passport be lost or stolen in Canada, you must notify the local police and Passport Canada immediately. Should your passport be lost or stolen while you are abroad, you must immediately report the incident to the local police and the nearest Canadian government office.

This brochure presents ways to protect and prevent against the misuse of your passport.

Safeguard your passport

Losing your passport can cause travel delays, discomfort and unnecessary expenses. Take all the necessary precautions to secure this document.

Find out the essential steps you need to take if your passport is lost or stolen and protect yourself from identity theft.



Report a lost or stolen passport

The Canadian passport remains at all times the property of the Government of Canada and may only be used by the person to whom it is issued.

You should immediately report the circumstances of the loss or theft of your passport to the local police and Passport Canada if you are in Canada, or to the local police and the nearest Canadian government office if you are abroad. Once a passport has been reported lost or stolen, it is no longer valid and is not to be used for any travel. This is to ensure that it is not used for fraudulent purposes.

Report a found passport

Should you regain possession of the passport reported as lost or stolen, you must return it immediately to Passport Canada, or, if you are abroad, to the nearest Canadian government office. Do not attempt to use the document for travel, as you will encounter difficulties.

If you find a passport belonging to someone else, you must return it immediately to Passport Canada or the nearest Canadian government office. The use or attempted use of a passport by anyone other than the person to whom it is issued may lead to criminal prosecution, and is cause for refusal of future passport services.

Damaged passport

There can be significant delays at passport checkpoints if your passport is damaged in any way. Airlines might prohibit you from boarding. Also, you could be refused entry or exit at border crossings. To avoid such incidents, Passport Canada recommends that anyone with a damaged passport apply for a new one.

Replacement passport

Before a lost or stolen passport can be replaced, Canadian authorities will conduct an investigation into the circumstances surrounding the incident.

If your passport is lost or stolen, obtain a police report and submit it along with the following documentation:

- A completed passport application, which includes:
 - two passport-sized photos;
 - the appropriate fee;
 - supporting identification; and
 - documentary proof of Canadian citizenship (your birth or citizenship certificate).
- A completed *Statutory Declaration concerning a Lost, Stolen, Damaged, Destroyed or Inaccessible Canadian Passport or Travel Document* form.

In case of urgent travel needs, assistance may be obtained at a Passport Canada service location, or at a Canadian government office abroad.

Your replacement document will be identified as replacing a valid lost or stolen passport. Also, you will not be eligible to apply for a replacement using the simplified renewal process.

Tips for safe and easy travel

Keep your passport in a safe place at all times. Do not leave it unattended in your luggage, automobile, hotel room or elsewhere.

Make two photocopies of the personal information page of your passport. Leave one copy with family or friends and keep the other in a different place from your passport. In the event that your passport is lost or stolen, these copies can speed up the replacement process.

Checklist

- Report the loss or theft as soon as possible to Passport Canada.
- File a report with the local police.
- Apply for a new passport as soon as you can and complete a *Statutory Declaration concerning a Lost, Stolen, Damaged, Destroyed or Inaccessible Canadian Passport or Travel Document* form.

Remember, Canadians who fail to properly safeguard passports may be denied access to passport services.

For more information, visit www.passportcanada.gc.ca or call 1-800-567-6868 (toll free within Canada or the US) or 819-997-8338 (outside the continental US and abroad).