



2023-2024

ACADEMIC PLANNER



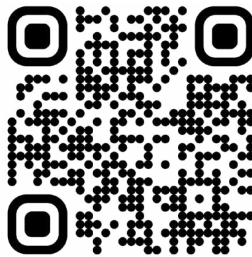
The History of Crime Stoppers

Crime Stoppers of Houston is Houston's top non-profit dedicated to public safety, and since 1980, has remained committed to its mission to solve and prevent serious crime in the Greater Houston Area in partnership with citizens, media and the criminal justice system.

The first-ever Crime Stoppers organization was founded in 1976 in Albuquerque, NM and was brought to Houston in 1980 by a group of concerned citizens.

We have been working steadily for over 42 years to solve and prevent serious crime. Since inception, we have solved over 36,500 felony cases through our anonymous Tip Line. Today, Crime Stoppers of Houston is leading the nation with innovative crime prevention programming that reaches millions each year.

As we evolve and respond to the needs of our community, we remain committed to advocating for the safety of all who call Houston and Texas home.



*Scan to learn more
about Crime Stoppers*

TIP LINE PROGRAM

An Anonymous Reporting Tool

The Tip Line Program offers cash rewards to anonymous individuals who provide tips that solve crimes and locate wanted fugitives in the Greater Houston Area. Crime Stoppers may pay a cash reward up to \$5,000 on felony crimes that happen in the Greater Houston Area and Harris County. To be eligible for a cash reward, you must report your tip directly to Crime Stoppers.

We have three different methods to report a tip:

How to Report a Tip



Call 713.222.TIPS (8477)

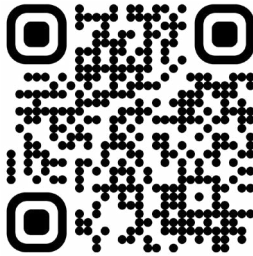


Use our **Mobile App**

Download app name: Crime Stoppers Houston



Go to **crime-stoppers.org**



*Scan to learn more
about our Tip Line*

Safe Campus, Safe Learning

College should be a fun and exciting time to learn new things, build life-long friendships, and prepare for a successful career. Unfortunately, that time of expected excitement can be quickly interrupted due to **crime** or **victimization**. In 2022, crimes reported on college campuses rose significantly. With this in mind, Crime Stoppers of Houston designed this resource specifically for students on college campuses. In addition to being a handy personal planner to help you stay organized, this booklet contains **safety tips** on some of the most pressing issues including **sexual assault, situational awareness, substance use prevention, and mental health**. This planner also includes a brief academic resource guide containing information on citations. We hope you use this resource to not only help yourself plan, set goals, and stay organized as a student, but also as a tool to increase your personal resilience and reduce your risk of becoming a victim of crime.

To learn more information about staying safe on your college campus, visit our resource center at crime-stoppers.org/resource-center.

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August 2023

SUNDAY

MONDAY

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

30

31

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THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
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SEPTEMBER

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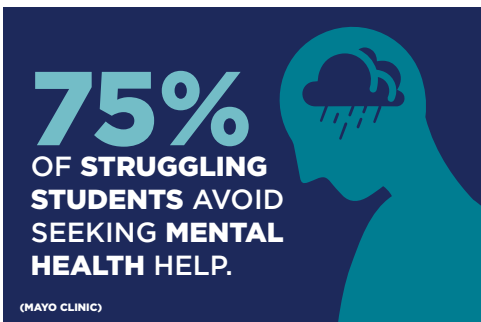
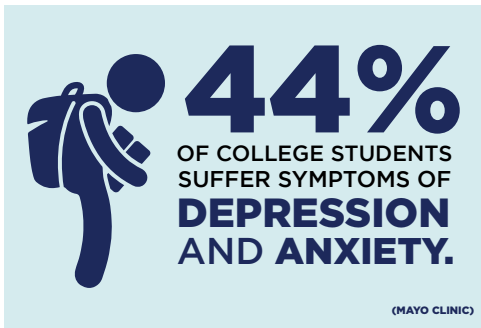
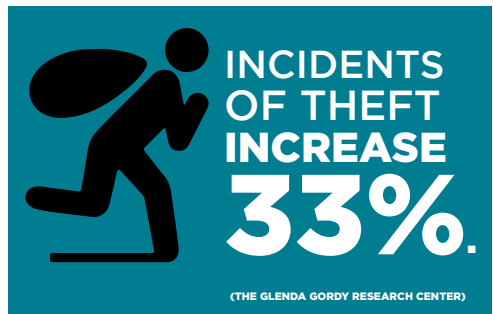
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BACK TO SCHOOL/COLLEGE SAFETY

SAFETY AWARENESS TIPS

The beginning of a new school year is both an exciting and stressful time. As you begin your classes, meet your professors, and settle into the school year, keep an eye on yourself and your friends, and make sure that the pressures of the school year do not become too overwhelming.

FROM 2021 TO 2022, COLLEGE CAMPUSES SAW:



PREVENTION

If you suspect a friend may be struggling with their mental health, make a plan to check-in with them:

1. Find an Appropriate Time & Place

Be persistent and let them know you are a safe, non-judgmental resource. Prioritize their comfort and privacy. Plan what you are going to say. Do some research if necessary.

2. Share Your Concerns

“Just wanted to check in. How are you, really?”

“You haven’t seemed yourself lately.”

“You seem more withdrawn/isolated than usual. Is everything okay?”

3. If You Suspect Suicidal Ideation

Ask if there was a specific incident that led to suicidal thoughts.

Ask if they have a specific plan.

Ask them to describe what they are feeling and then validate those feelings.

4. Listen & Follow-Up

TAKE A MENTAL TEST

Online screening is one of the quickest and easiest ways to determine whether you are experiencing symptoms of a mental health condition. Use the following link to access an online screening tool for Depression, Anxiety, PTSD and other common mental health conditions:



August 2023

31 Monday

1 Tuesday

2 Wednesday

3 Thursday

4 Friday

Weekly Safety Tip:

If you witness a crime, submit an anonymous tip to Crime Stoppers at 713-222-TIPS (8477). You may be eligible for a cash reward of up to \$5,000 if your tip leads to an arrest or suspect identification.

August 2023

7 Monday

8 Tuesday

9 Wednesday

10 Thursday

11 Friday

Weekly Safety Tip:

Biking around campus? To best protect your property, always remember to lock and secure the bike frame to the bike rack. Staying alert while doing so can reduce your risk of being surprised.

12 Saturday

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August 2023

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Weekly Safety Tip:

To ensure your safety when using a rideshare service, confirm the driver's ID and make sure the child locks are NOT engaged. When riding alone, always sit in the back passenger seat.

August 2023

21 Monday

22 Tuesday

23 Wednesday

24 Thursday

25 Friday

Weekly Safety Tip:

Road rage incidents can lead to property damage and personal injury. If someone is aggressively tailgating you, pull aside and allow them to pass.

26 Saturday

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August 2023

28 Monday

29 Tuesday

30 Wednesday

31 Thursday

1 Friday

Weekly Safety Tip:

If you fear your friend is impaired and unable to get home safely, offer them a ride home or accompany them if someone else is taking them home. Do NOT let them ride alone, even with a rideshare service.

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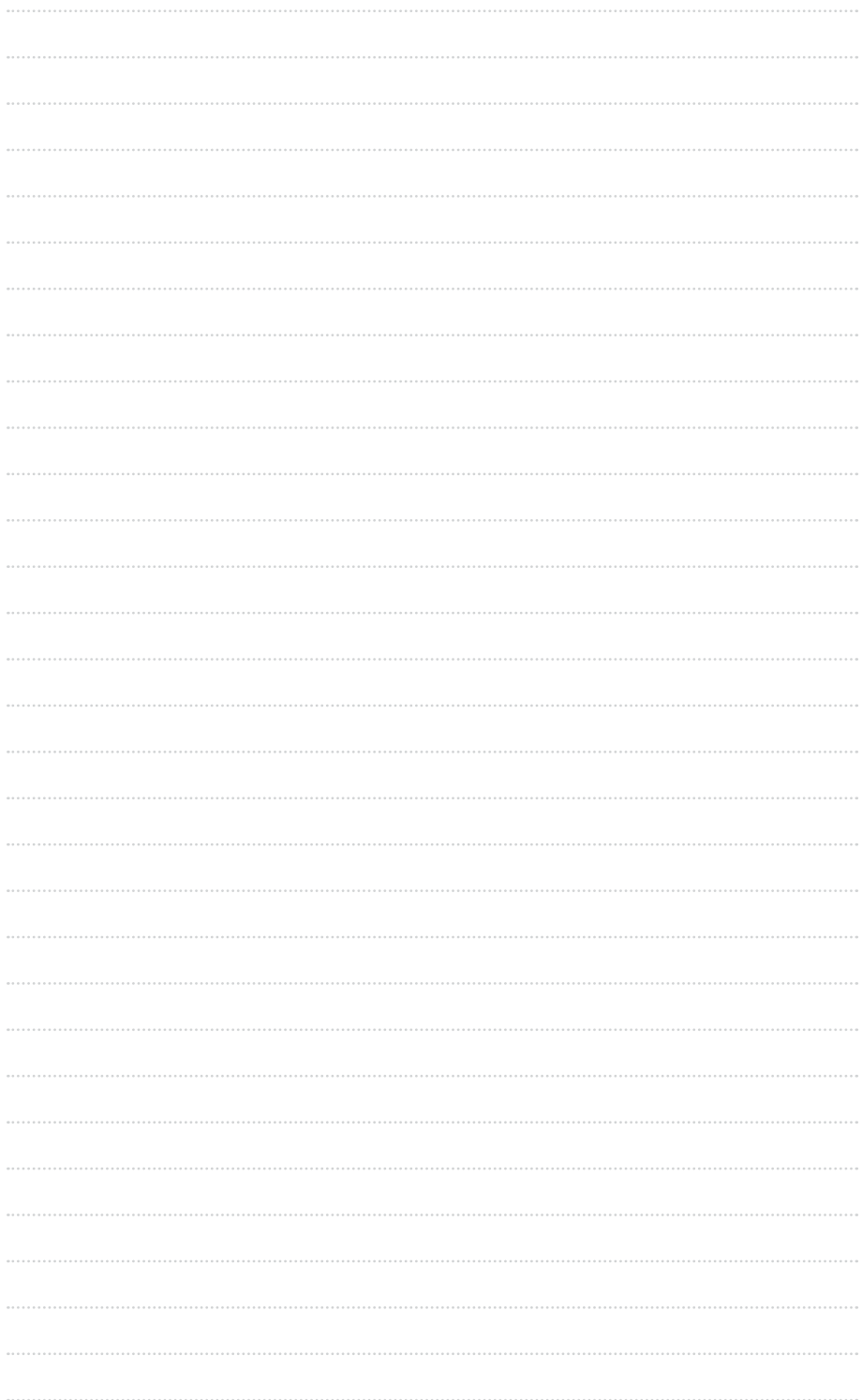
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September 2023

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY
AUGUST S M Tu W Th F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31	OCTOBER S M Tu W Th F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31	29	30
3	4 <i>Labor Day</i>	5	6
10 <i>World Suicide Prevention Day</i>	11 <i>Patriot Day</i>	12	13
17	18	19	20
24 <i>Yom Kippur (Begins at Sunset)</i>	25	26	27

THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	NOTES
31	1	2	.........................
7	8	9	.........................
14	15 <i>Rosh Hashanah (Begins at Sunset)</i>	16	.........................
21	22	23 <i>First Day of Fall (Equinox)</i>	..... ..... ..... ..... .....
28	29	30	.........................

ACTIVE SHOOTER

SAFETY AWARENESS TIPS

Active attack situations can happen anywhere and without warning. Because they are often over within 10 to 15 minutes, you must be prepared to respond not only to the active threat, but to also treat any injuries until first responders arrive.

IN AN ACTIVE ATTACK, YOU HAVE **THREE** OPTIONS:



#1 - RUN

If there is an accessible escape path, evacuate the premises in a direction away from the attacker.

- Have an escape route and plan in mind.
- Leave your belongings behind.
- Evacuate regardless of whether others agree to follow.
- Help others escape, if possible.
- Do not attempt to move the wounded.
- Prevent others from entering an area where the active shooter may be.
- Keep your hands visible.
- Call 911 when you are safe.



#2 - HIDE

When getting away is impossible, find a safe place to hide.

- Hide in an area out of the shooter's view and lock door or block the door.
- Create barriers to prevent or slow down a threat from getting to you.
- Bring a self-defense tool with you and create a defense plan in case you are discovered.
- Silence your cell phone (including vibrate mode) and remain quiet.



#3 - FIGHT

As a last resort, and only if your life is in imminent danger, try to disrupt or incapacitate the shooter.

- Act with as much physical aggression as possible.
- Improvise weapons or throw items at the active shooter.
- Commit to your actions. Your life depends on it.
- Attack from ambush and from multiple locations if in a group.
- Restrain and secure the attacked until law enforcement arrives.

WHEN LAW ENFORCEMENT ARRIVES

- Remain calm and follow instructions.
- Drop items in your hands (e.g., bag, jacket).
- Raise hands and spread fingers.
- Keep hands visible at all times.
- Avoid quick movements towards officers, such as holding on to them for safety.
- Avoid pointing, screaming, or yelling.
- Do not ask questions when evacuating.

Information to Provide to Law Enforcement:

- Location of active shooter.
- Number of shooters.
- Physical description of shooters (weight, height, gender, race, etc.).
- Number and type of weapons shooter has (handgun, rifle, knife).
- Number of potential victims in the area.

The first officers to arrive at the scene will not stop to help the injured. Until the area is secured, you may have to treat the injured as best you can. Remember basic first aid: For bleeding apply pressure and elevate. To apply pressure, use items such as clothing, paper towels, feminine hygiene products or newspapers.

** Note that responding officers do not necessarily know the identity of the shooter and may treat everyone they encounter as a possible suspect.*

OUR ACTIVE SHOOTER EDUCATION IS MADE POSSIBLE BY JETBLUE.

September 2023

4 Monday

5 Tuesday

6 Wednesday

7 Thursday

8 Friday

Weekly Safety Tip:

If you see the same person at multiple locations, they may be following you. If you feel like you are being followed, go to an open, public place or the closest police station. Do NOT go straight home.

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September 2023

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Weekly Safety Tip:

Mass shootings and terrorist attacks can happen anywhere, at any time. To prevent being a victim of a mass attack, identify all entry and exit points as you enter a room

September 2023

18 Monday

19 Tuesday

20 Wednesday

21 Thursday

22 Friday

Weekly Safety Tip:

Take time to become familiar with campus landmarks and streets so that you can navigate your way around or out of an area in an emergency.

September 2023

25 Monday

26 Tuesday

27 Wednesday

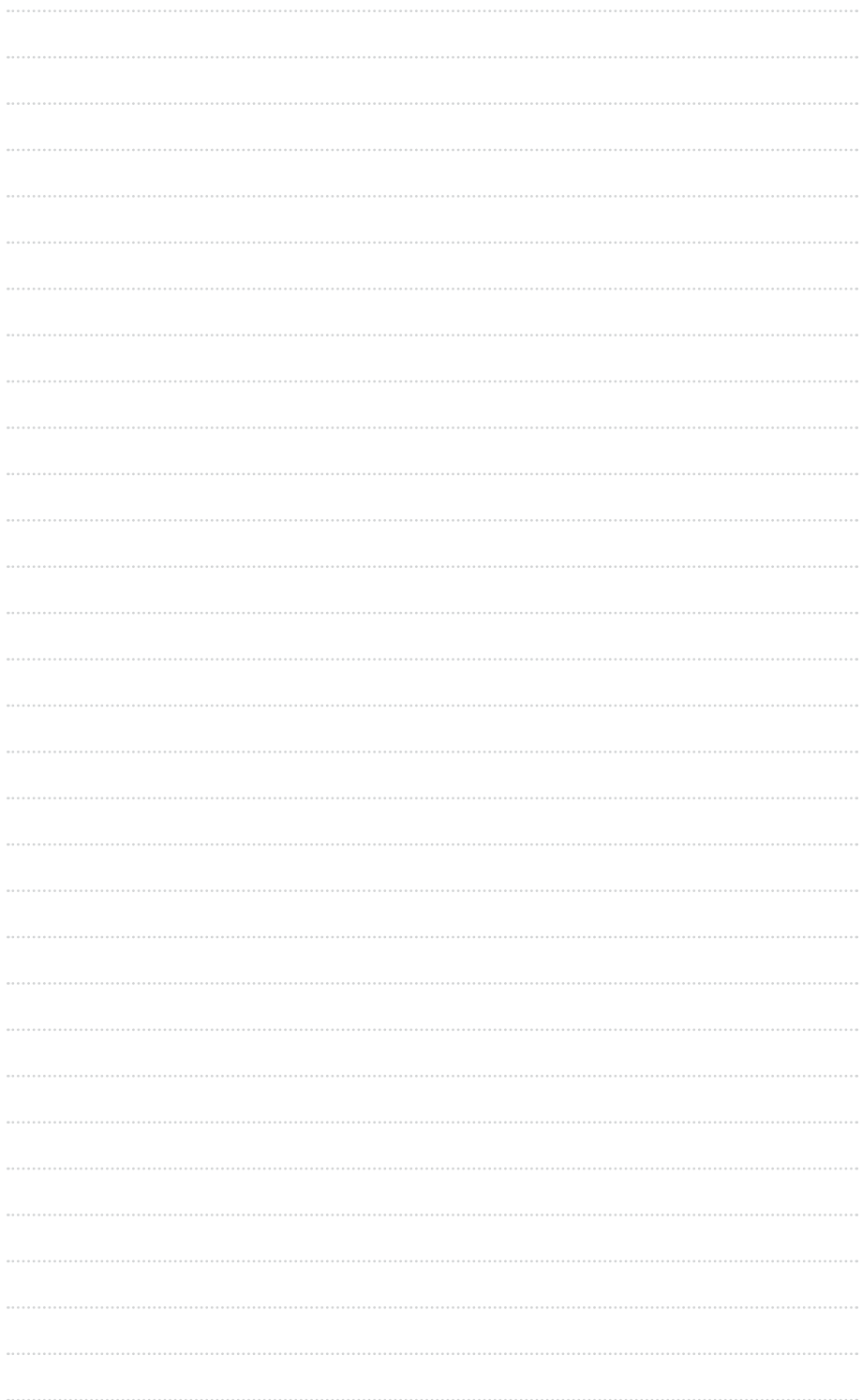
28 Thursday

29 Friday

Weekly Safety Tip:

Most campus police departments offer a safety escort program for students that request one. If you feel unsafe walking on campus, contact your university police for a safe ride home.





October 2023

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY
1	2	3	4
8	9 <i>Columbus Day (Indigenous Peoples' Day)</i>	10 <i>World Mental Health Day</i>	11
15	16	17	18
22	23 <i>Red Ribbon Week (9/23 - 9/31)</i>	24	25
29	30	31 <i>Halloween</i>	1

THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
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SEPTEMBER

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NOVEMBER

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DOMESTIC VIOLENCE & SEXUAL ASSAULT SAFETY AWARENESS TIPS

Domestic violence is any harm or abuse that occurs in an intimate relationship, or within a shared household. Sexual assault is any type of sexual contact or behavior that occurs without the explicit consent of the recipient.

Anyone can be a victim of abuse at the hands of their partner, but victims of domestic violence are overwhelmingly women being abused by male partners or other male family members.



1 IN 3
WOMEN & **1 IN 4**
MEN

HAVE EXPERIENCED SOME
FORM OF **PHYSICAL VIOLENCE**
BY AN INTIMATE PARTNER.

(NATIONAL COALITION AGAINST DOMESTIC VIOLENCE)



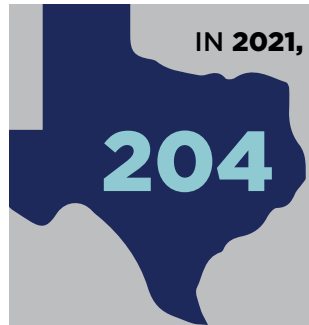
WOMEN BETWEEN THE
AGES OF **18-24** ARE MOST
COMMONLY ABUSED BY
AN INTIMATE PARTNER.

(DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE)



43%
OF DATING
COLLEGE WOMEN
REPORTED
PARTNER ABUSE.

(NATIONAL COALITION AGAINST DOMESTIC VIOLENCE)



IN 2021,

204

TEXANS WERE
KILLED BY **INTIMATE**
PARTNERS.

(TEXAS COUNCIL ON FAMILY VIOLENCE)

PREVENTION

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE MYTHS

MYTH: It's easy to leave an abusive relationship.

FACT: Victims of domestic violence stay in abusive relationships for a number of reasons. Many victims are being psychologically manipulated by their abuser and believe that the abuse is their fault. They may have children with their abuser and are unable to leave because that would put their children at harm. Other victims of domestic violence are being financially exploited by their partner, and may not have access to any money.

MYTH: If a man was aroused, he wanted it to happen.

FACT: Arousal and orgasm are physiological reactions to physical stimulation and do not necessarily indicate consent. Consent requires emotional and mental willingness, not just a physical reaction.

MYTH: Domestic violence is usually a one-time, isolated incident.

FACT: Domestic violence is a pattern of abusive behavior that happens over and over and escalates in severity/dangerousness over time.

MYTH: Domestic violence is always physical.

FACT: There are multiple forms of domestic violence, including physical, emotional, sexual, spiritual, and financial.

Preventing sexual assault and domestic violence requires being aware of potential red flags in our relationships. We must also be proactive in setting boundaries and discussing consent in our romantic and sexual relationships.

SET YOUR BOUNDARIES

Digital:

- You never have to share your passwords or allow access to your accounts.
- You choose what you share on social media including your relationship status.
- You choose what texts and photos you want to share with your partner.

Emotional:

- You choose how to spend and prioritize your time.
- You choose when you want to talk to someone and if/when you say “I love you”.
- If someone is making you feel like you are to blame for abuse, you are experiencing gas lighting. This is abuse.

Physical:

- You choose if and when you want to engage in any sexual activity. Each and every time.
- Your personal space is yours. Your partner cannot force their way into your home.
- You choose if and when you want to use drugs and alcohol.



CONSENT

Consent is an active and ongoing process where both you and your partner can freely communicate desires, limits, and boundaries without fear or coercion. Consent allows partners to feel safe, communicate what they want, and how they want to continue forward. You must have consent every time you engage in sexual activity, and you can change your mind at any time. Some examples of questions that can ensure consent throughout sexual activity include:

- “Are you comfortable?”
- “Is this okay?”
- “Do you want to slow down?”
- “Do you want to go any further?”

REPORTING

If you or someone you know is a victim of domestic violence, contact your local police department or the National Domestic Violence Hotline at 1-800-799-7233.

THIS INFORMATION IS MADE POSSIBLE BY DAYA.



EMPOWERING
SOUTH ASIAN
SURVIVORS
OF ABUSE

October 2023

2 Monday

3 Tuesday

4 Wednesday

5 Thursday

6 Friday

Weekly Safety Tip:

Remote tracking devices are small, easily hidden and can be used to track unsuspecting people and potentially kidnap or harm them. Beware of anyone trying

7 Saturday

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to attach one of these devices to you, your vehicle, or your belongings. Apple devices, for example, notify you when a new Airtag has been detected near you.

October 2023

9 Monday

10 Tuesday

11 Wednesday

12 Thursday

13 Friday

Weekly Safety Tip:

Mental illnesses left unaddressed may lead to academic struggles, job loss, substance abuse and suicide. Challenge yourself to talk openly about mental health and seek help when you need it.

14 Saturday

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October 2023

16 Monday

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Weekly Safety Tip:

Before meeting in-person with someone you met on a dating app, video chat with them to ensure they are who they claim to be on their profile, meet in a public place,

October 2023

23 Monday

24 Tuesday

25 Wednesday

26 Thursday

27 Friday

Weekly Safety Tip:

NARCAN Nasal Spray (Naloxone) can reverse the effects of an opioid overdose and can be purchased over the counter at most pharmacies. Consider keeping some in

28 Saturday

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October 2023

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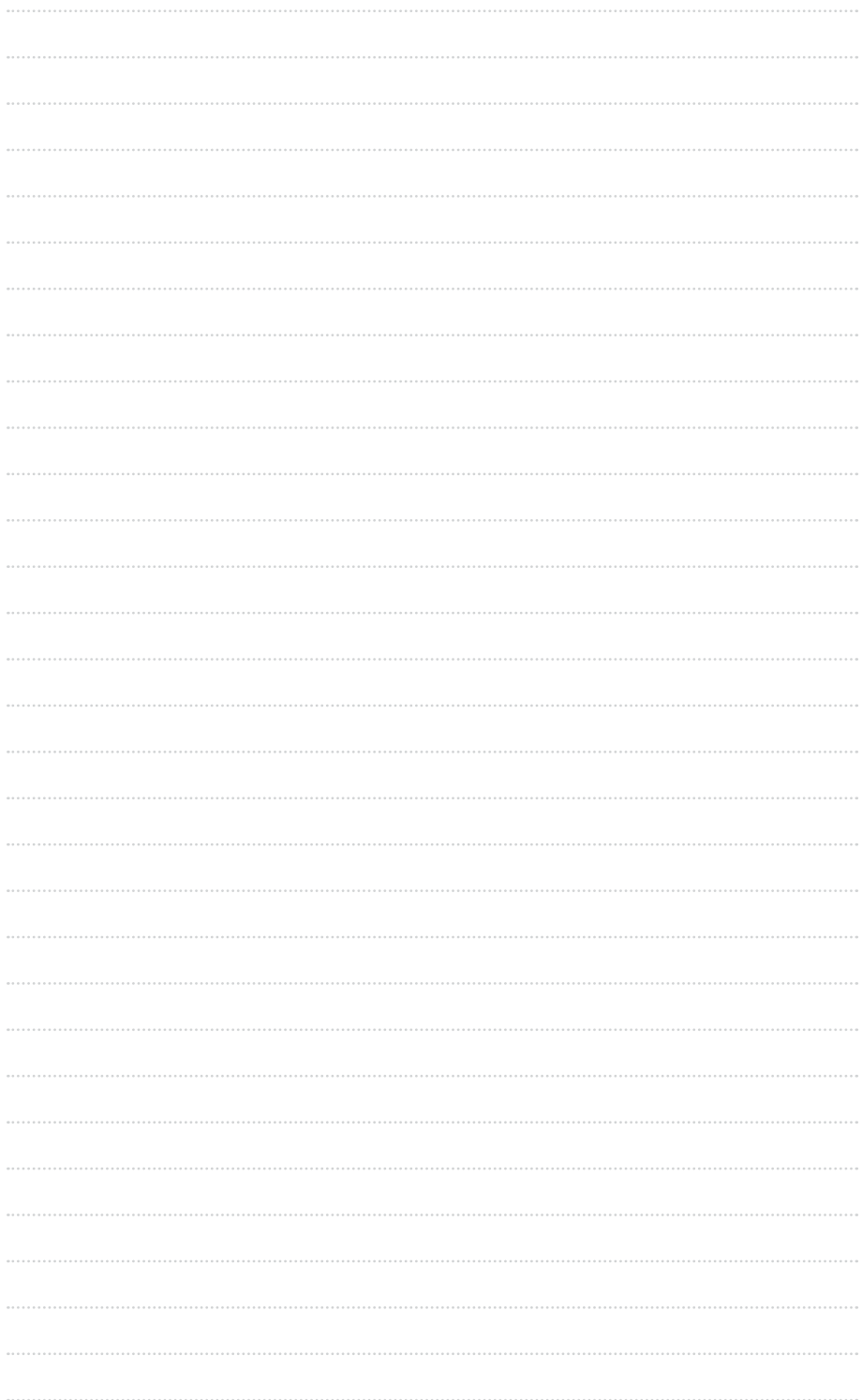
2 Thursday

3 Friday

Weekly Safety Tip:

Don't share information about someone else that you wouldn't share about yourself. You may put them at an increased risk of victimization.





November 2023

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY
29	30	31	1 <i>All Saint's Day</i>

5 <i>Daylight Savings Time Ends</i>	6	7 <i>Election Day</i>	8
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12 <i>Diwali</i>	13	14	15
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19 <i>International Men's Day</i>	20	21	22
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26	27	28	29
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THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
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11 *Veteran's Day*

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Thanksgiving Day

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OCTOBER

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DECEMBER

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HOMELESSNESS

SAFETY AWARENESS TIPS

People without safe and/or stable housing are incredibly vulnerable and are more likely to be the victim of a violent crime especially if they are a woman, teen, or child.



52,000+

PEOPLE IN **HARRIS, FORT BEND, AND MONTGOMERY COUNTIES** ACCESSED SOME TYPE OF HOMELESS SERVICE, INCLUDING **PREVENTION, CLOTHING AND FOOD ASSISTANCE** IN 2021.

(COALITION FOR THE HOMELESS)

IN **JANUARY 2020**, THERE WERE

580,466

PEOPLE EXPERIENCING **HOMELESSNESS** IN AMERICA.



(NATIONAL ALLIANCE TO END HOMELESSNESS)

20%

OF HOMELESS INDIVIDUALS ARE CHILDREN.



(US DEPT. OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT)

53%

OF PEOPLE LIVING IN **HOMELESS SHELTERS** AND

40%

UNSHELTERED PEOPLE ARE EMPLOYED, EITHER **FULL OR PART-TIME.**



(UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO)

PREVENTION

MYTH: People are homeless by choice.

FACT: Homelessness is caused by many different factors. Sudden job loss or an unexpected medical emergency can drain people of their financial resources, leaving them unable to afford their mortgage or rent payment. Women may be trying to escape domestic violence and find themselves without a stable home to go to. Many struggle with mental illness, depression, post-traumatic stress or simply cannot cope with trauma in their lives. Poor choices can contribute to homelessness, but outside circumstances strongly influence those choices.

MYTH: People who are homeless are violent, dangerous, and/or are lawbreakers.

FACT: While a larger number of people experiencing homelessness have substance abuse disorders than the general population, a person who is homeless is no more likely to be a criminal than a housed person and is in fact more likely to be the victim of a violent crime, especially if they are a homeless woman, teen, or child.

MYTH: Homeless people don't try hard enough to find a job or a place to live.

FACT: 53% of people living in homeless shelters and 40% of unsheltered people are employed, either full or part-time (University of Chicago). Even with a job, there is no State in the US where a full-time minimum wage worker can afford a one-bedroom apartment. It is also difficult to maintain employment when you don't have a place to bathe, prepare meals, or electricity for an alarm clock.

November 2023

6 Monday

7 Tuesday

8 Wednesday

9 Thursday

10 Friday

Weekly Safety Tip:

Learn simple self-defense techniques, like running away, yelling, and fighting back if necessary. If you need to fight, target vulnerable areas like the eyes, nose, throat, or groin.

11 Saturday

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12 Sunday

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November 2023

13 Monday

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Weekly Safety Tip:

College students are often a target of identity theft and fraud. Keep personal financial information in a secure place in your home. When disposing of private documents, shred anything containing sensitive information.

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19 Sunday

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November 2023

20 Monday

21 Tuesday

22 Wednesday

23 Thursday

24 Friday

Weekly Safety Tip:

If you see someone being harassed in public, take action. Consider asking them if they need help, offer emotional support, invite them to join you, or call for help.

25 Saturday

26 Sunday

Notes

November 2023

27 Monday

28 Tuesday

29 Wednesday

30 Thursday

1 Friday

Weekly Safety Tip:

Home package theft is on the rise. Utilize tracking services to monitor your delivery updates, consider having packages mailed to a work address if possible, or have a

2 Saturday

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3 Sunday

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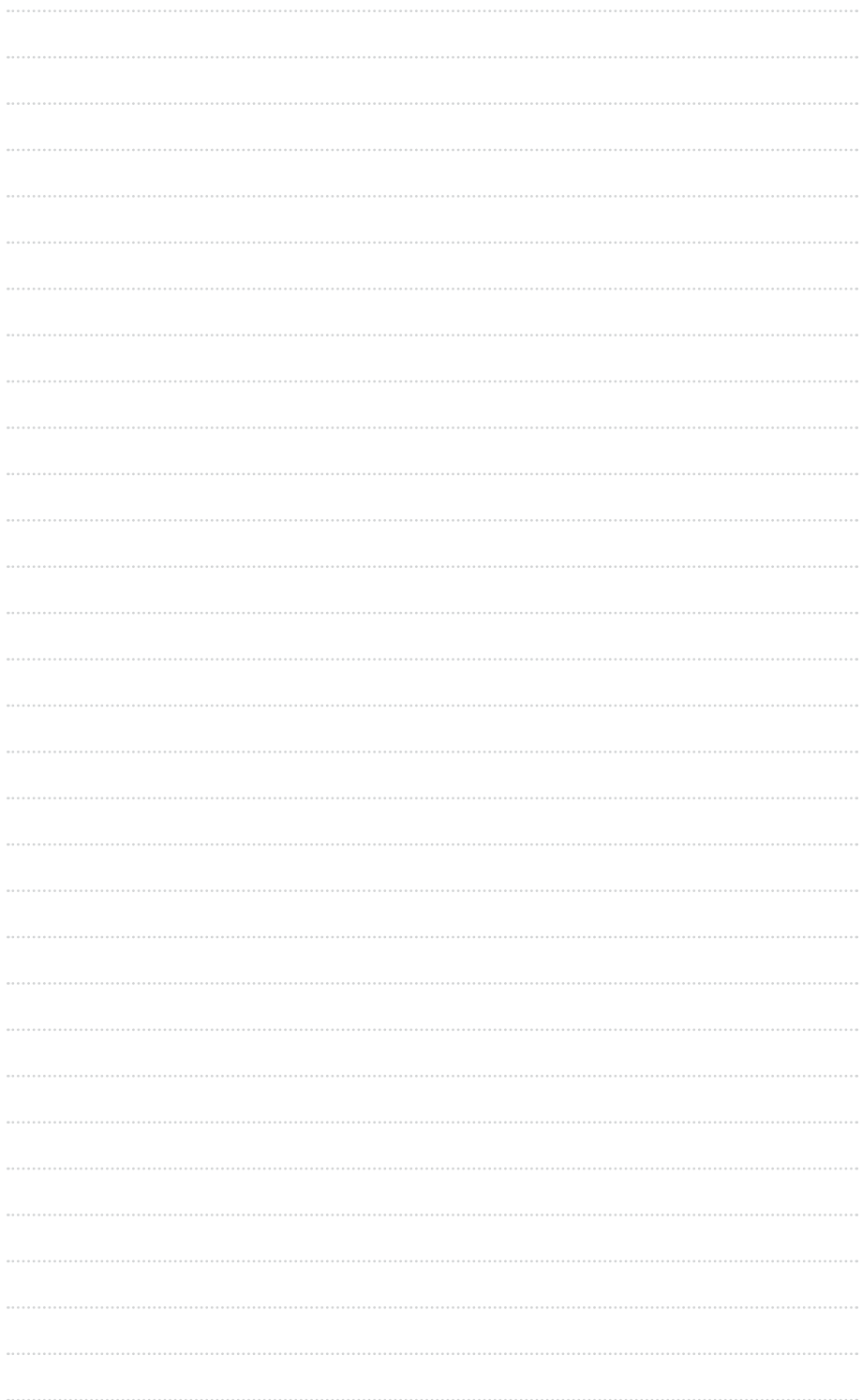
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trusted neighbor or roommate hold the delivery for you to reduce the risk of it being stolen.





December 2023

SUNDAY							MONDAY							TUESDAY							WEDNESDAY							
NOVEMBER							JANUARY							28							29							
S	M	Tu	W	Th	F	S	S	M	Tu	W	Th	F	S															
			1	2	3	4			1	2	3	4	5	6														
5	6	7	8	9	10	11	7	8	9	10	11	12	13															
12	13	14	15	16	17	18	14	15	16	17	18	19	20															
19	20	21	22	23	24	25	21	22	23	24	25	26	27															
26	27	28	29	30			28	29	30	31																		
3							4							5							6							
10							11							12							13							
17							18							19							20							
24							25 <i>Christmas Day</i>							26 <i>Kwanzaa Begins</i>							27							
31 <i>New Year's Eve</i>																												

THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	NOTES
30	1	2	.........................
7 Hanukkah (Begins at Sunset)	8	9	.........................
14	15	16	.........................
21	22 First Day of Winter (Solstice)	23	.........................
28	29	30	.........................

SEASONAL SAFETY/ SITUATIONAL AWARENESS

SAFETY AWARENESS TIPS

The holiday season is always a special time of the year. Unfortunately, crimes of opportunity increase during the holiday season. As you shop, please be mindful of the following safety tips to help keep your holiday shopping safe and joyous!

PREVENTION

Practicing situational awareness can reduce your likelihood of being the victim of a surprise attack while out in public.

Situational awareness means noticing people, places, and things in your vicinity. Learning to watch body language, assess different situations and make the best decision based on those assessments is a daily habit we can incorporate every day.



THERE ARE **FIVE DIFFERENT** LEVELS OR "CONDITIONS" OF AWARENESS:

CONDITION WHITE

- Unaware of surroundings.
- Easy target.
- Okay stage for when at home.

CONDITION YELLOW

- Relaxed state of alertness.
- Difficult to surprise
- Recognizes the possibility of an "attack".
- Ideal condition of awareness to be in.

CONDITION ORANGE

- Advanced level of awareness
- Alerted by a person or event – is there a threat?
- Analyze and respond to a threat – seconds or minutes to move away

CONDITION RED

- Life or safety is threatened
- Mentally prepared to fight or move
- If not "trained" you may freeze

CONDITION BLACK

- Actively applying justifiable force
- Firearm, pepper spray, taser, improvised defense
- May need to comply if being robbed or hurt.

December 2023

4 Monday

5 Tuesday

6 Wednesday

7 Thursday

8 Friday

Weekly Safety Tip:

During the holiday season, criminals often lurk in busy areas like shopping centers looking for potential targets to rob. If you suspect that you are being watched or

December 2023

11 Monday

12 Tuesday

13 Wednesday

14 Thursday

15 Friday

Weekly Safety Tip:

Stay alert when out and about. Keep your head up and acknowledge people as they walk by to show you are paying attention. Criminals prefer targets that are distracted and may not see them coming.

December 2023

18 Monday

19 Tuesday

20 Wednesday

21 Thursday

22 Friday

Weekly Safety Tip:

Be careful with your social media posts while on vacation. A criminal may be waiting for an opportunity for your home to be vacant. Post pictures after you return from your trip.

December 2023

25 Monday

26 Tuesday

27 Wednesday

28 Thursday

29 Friday

Weekly Safety Tip:

Anyone can be a victim of sexual violence. If a friend informs you that they were assaulted, contact the National Sexual Assault Hotline, your university, or the police.

30 Saturday

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31 Sunday

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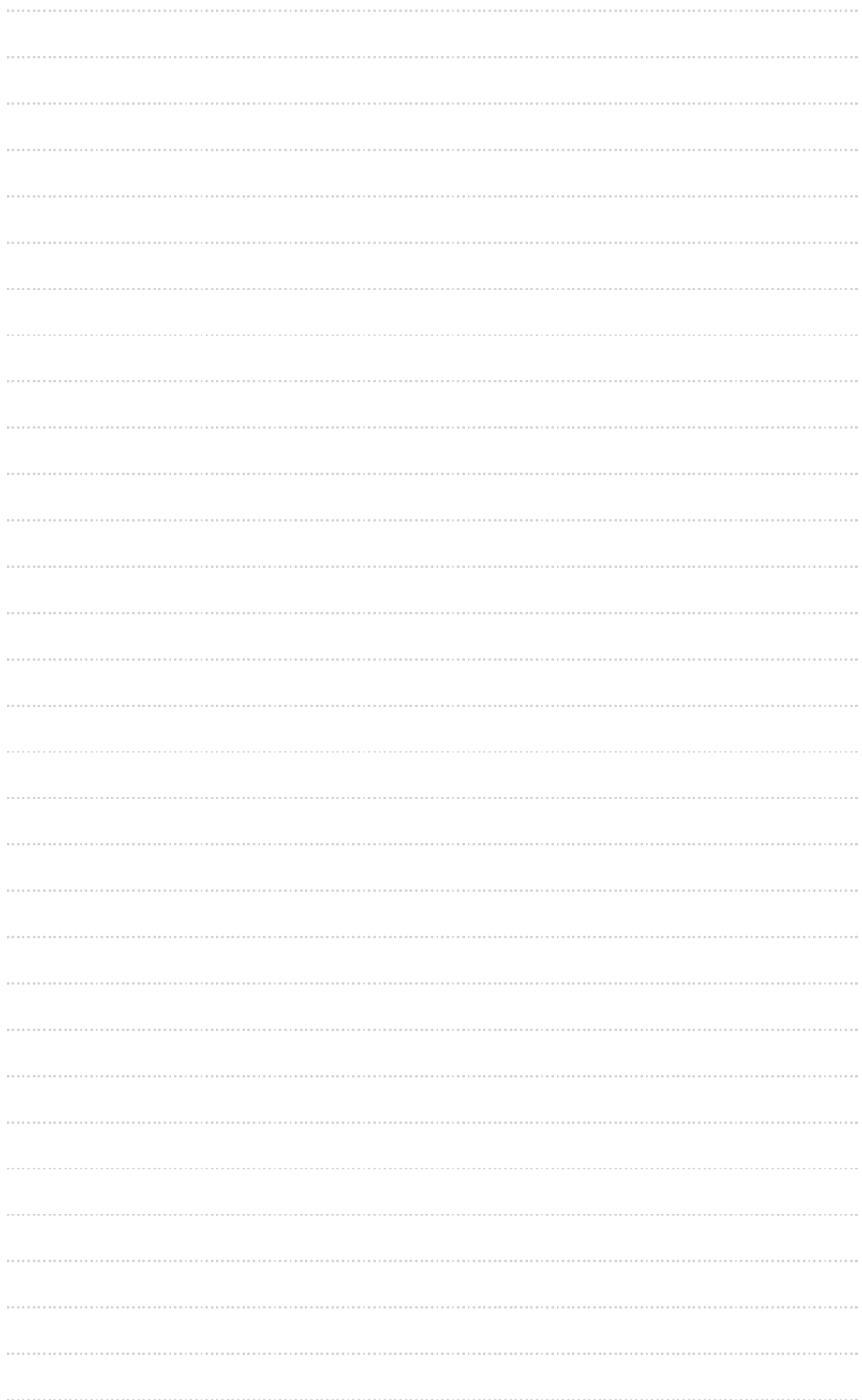
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January 2024

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY
31	1 <i>New Year's Day</i>	2	3
7	8	9 <i>National Law Enforcement Appreciation Day</i>	10
14	15 <i>Martin Luther King, Jr. Day</i>	16	17
21	22	23	24
28 <i>Data Privacy Day</i>	29	30	31

THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
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11 *National Human Trafficking Awareness Day*

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DECEMBER

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10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
						31

FEBRUARY

S	M	Tu	W	Th	F	S
					1	2
					3	
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29		

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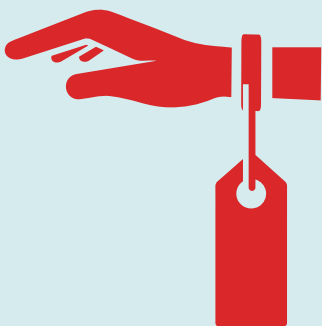
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HUMAN TRAFFICKING

SAFETY AWARENESS TIPS

Human Trafficking involves the use of force, fraud, or coercion to obtain some type of forced labor, commercial sex, or both.



THERE ARE AN ESTIMATED
79,000
YOUTH **SEX TRAFFICKING**
VICTIMS IN TEXAS.

(TEXAS HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES)

91%

OF SEX TRAFFIC
GROOMERS HAVE
A **RELATIONSHIP**
TO THEIR VICTIM
- FRIEND, FAMILY,
PARTNER, ETC.



(NATIONAL HUMAN TRAFFICKING HOTLINE)



TEXAS RANKS **SECOND**
IN THE NATION FOR
REPORTED CASES OF
HUMAN TRAFFICKING.

(NATIONAL HUMAN TRAFFICKING HOTLINE)

PREVENTION

Being informed about the signs of human trafficking can help you save a life. Be on the lookout for common indicators like:

- Person seems overly fearful, submissive, tense, or paranoid.
- Person has physical injuries or branding such as name tattoos, or tattoos about sex or money.
- Clothing is inappropriately sexual or inappropriate for weather
- Identification documents are held by another.
- Person works long or excessive hours or is always available “on demand”.
- Overly sexual for age or situation.
- Multiple phones or social media accounts.
- Signs of unusual wealth without explanation.

Keep in mind that most victims are not kidnapped; rather, they are groomed, manipulated, and lured over a long period of time prior to their eventual exploitation.

To avoid becoming a victim of trafficking, never share personal information online, be aware of fake social media profiles, and exercise extreme caution when meeting an online friend in person for the first time.

REPORTING

If you suspect you or someone you know is being exploited, contact the National Human Trafficking Hotline at 1-888-373-7888 or [humantraffickinghotline](https://www.humantraffickinghotline.org).

January 2024

1 Monday

2 Tuesday

3 Wednesday

4 Thursday

5 Friday

Weekly Safety Tip:

Beware of fake profiles when using social media. Online predators often use fake profiles to target and gain the trust of their victims, grooming them over time. Check

6 Saturday

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7 Sunday

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a user's account history, posts, comments, and friends to help verify their identity.

January 2024

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Weekly Safety Tip:

Do not engage in sexual activity with anyone that is not able to fully consent, including individuals that are under the influence of alcohol or any mind-altering

January 2024

15 Monday

16 Tuesday

17 Wednesday

18 Thursday

19 Friday

Weekly Safety Tip:

If possible, utilize security cameras in your home. Even a fake camera can deter potential burglars.

20 Saturday

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21 Sunday

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January 2024

22 Monday

23 Tuesday

24 Wednesday

25 Thursday

26 Friday

Weekly Safety Tip:

When shopping online, avoid browsing on public, unsecured Wi-Fi networks. These Wi-Fi networks are easier for cybercriminals to access and steal your personal information.

January 2024

29 Monday

30 Tuesday

31 Wednesday

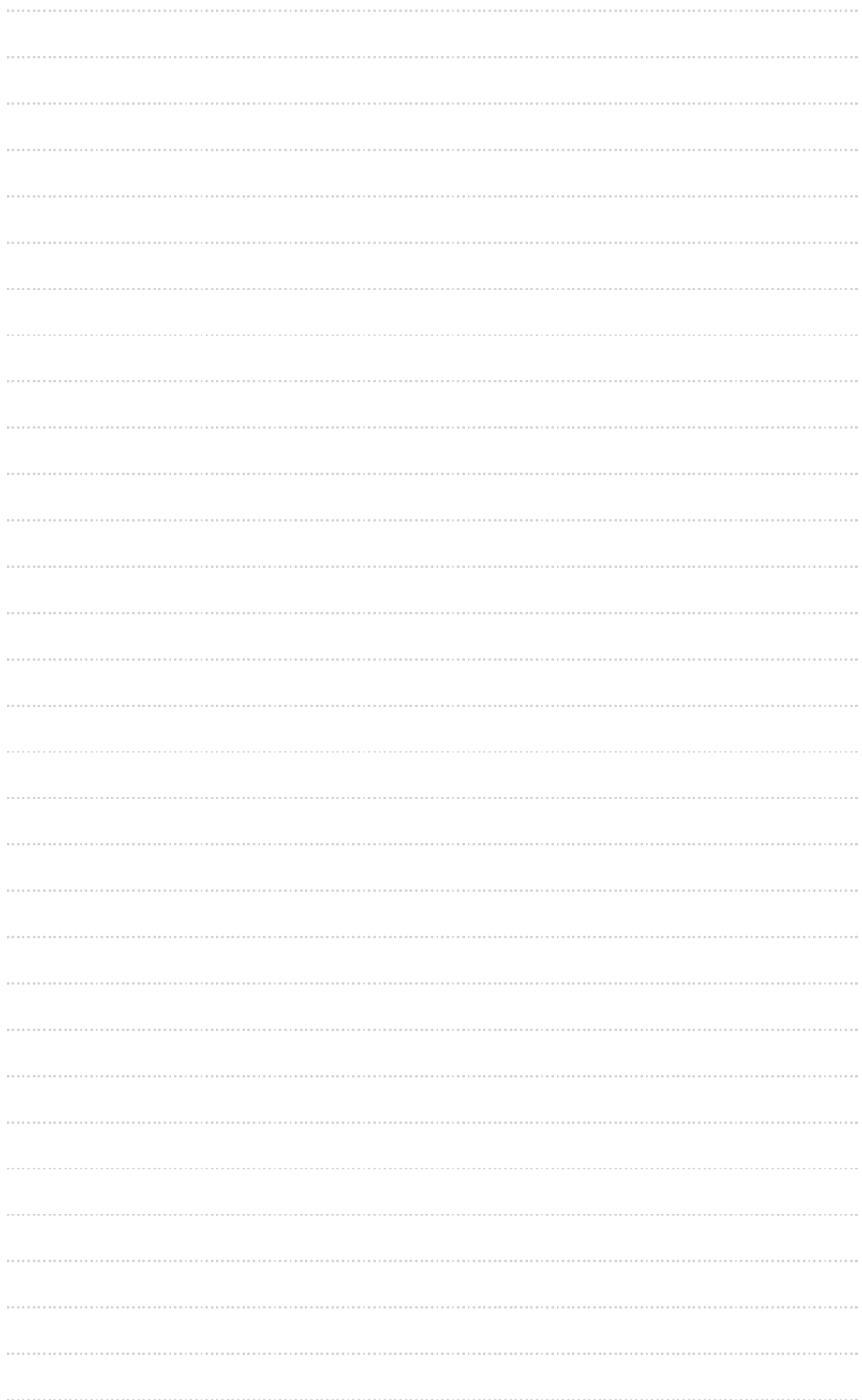
1 Thursday

2 Friday

Weekly Safety Tip:

If you carry a self-defense tool, practice using it so that you can confidently use it in an emergency. Consider options like pepper spray, a taser, whistle, or sharp objects.





February 2024

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY
JANUARY S M Tu W Th F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31	MARCH S M Tu W Th F S S M Tu W Th F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31	30	31
4	5	6	7
11	12	13 <i>Mardi Gras</i>	14 <i>Valentine's Day; Ash Wednesday</i>
18	19 <i>President's Day</i>	20	21 <i>Ash Wednesday</i>
25	26	27	28

THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	NOTES
1	2	3 <i>National Missing Persons Day</i>	.........................
8	9	10 <i>Chinese New Year</i>	.........................
15	16	17	.........................
22	23	24	.........................
29	1	2	.........................

SUBSTANCE USE SAFETY AWARENESS TIPS

Substance Use Disorder occurs when a person's use of drugs or alcohol leads to health problems or issues at work, school, or home. Substance Use Disorder is a diagnosable mental illness.



1 IN 4
COLLEGE STUDENTS
EXPERIENCE
ACADEMIC PROBLEMS
DUE TO DRINKING.



1 IN 10
COLLEGE STUDENTS
REPORTED
NON-MEDICAL USE
OF ADDERALL.

(AMERICAN ADDICTION CENTERS)

ONLY **2 MG.**
OF FENTANYL,
THE EQUIVALENT OF
2 GRAINS OF SALT, CAN
KILL YOU.



(DRUG ENFORCEMENT
ADMINISTRATION)



ABOUT
9%
OF COLLEGE STUDENTS
MEET THE CRITERIA FOR
ALCOHOL USE DISORDER.

(NATIONAL INSTITUTE ON ALCOHOL ABUSE & ALCOHOLISM)



(AMERICAN ADDICTION CENTERS)

20%
OF COLLEGE
STUDENTS WERE
EXPOSED TO
OPPORTUNITIES TO
USE COCAINE IN
THE PAST YEAR.

VAPING
MARIJUANA IS
HIGHEST AMONG
PEOPLE IN THEIR
EARLY 20'S.



(AMERICAN ADDICTION CENTERS)

PREVENTION

The reckless use of substances could pose serious threats to your well-being and hinder your future opportunities. By understanding the life-threatening hazards and legal ramifications associated with it, you can proactively make decisions that safeguard your physical and mental health. Equip yourself with knowledge, support, and resources to prevent substance misuse and create a safer, more successful college experience.

BE PREPARED & PRACTICE PREVENTION

- Have a blood pressure cuff on hand to test their blood pressure in case of emergency.
- If someone is severely under the influence of drugs or alcohol, be sure to drink plenty of water to prevent dehydration.
- Ensure you have NARCAN Nasal Spray on hand at all times.

LEARN HOW TO ADMINISTER NARCAN NASAL SPRAY:

Once administered, NARCAN Nasal Spray binds to opioid receptors and can block or reverse the effects of the opioid consumed. You can purchase NARCAN Nasal Spray at most pharmacies or email scp@crime-stoppers.org to receive FREE NARCAN Nasal Spray.

WHEN ADMINISTERING REMEMBER TO:

1. Move the person to their back.
2. Tilt their head and support their neck with your hand.
3. Place nozzle into either nostril and apply entire dose.
4. Stay near them until medical help arrives.

February 2024

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Weekly Safety Tip:

To reduce the risk of house fires, clean the lint filter on your dryer after each use.

10 Saturday

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February 2024

12 Monday

13 Tuesday

14 Wednesday

15 Thursday

16 Friday

Weekly Safety Tip:

Utilize 911 in all home fire emergencies. Do not use water to extinguish a grease or oil-based fire. Instead, turn off the heat source, cover with a lid, and monitor to ensure the fire is completely smothered.

February 2024

19 Monday

20 Tuesday

21 Wednesday

22 Thursday

23 Friday

Weekly Safety Tip:

As you approach your car, have your keys ready, and look in, around, and under your car for suspicious persons or activity so you are not caught off-guard by a potential criminal.

24 Saturday

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25 Sunday

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February 2024

26 Monday

27 Tuesday

28 Wednesday

29 Thursday

1 Friday

Weekly Safety Tip:

Scammers and cybercriminals often ask for money in ways that are difficult for you to get it back, such as gift cards, cryptocurrency, or through money wire. Knowing this can reduce your risk of becoming a victim of financial fraud or theft.

2 Saturday

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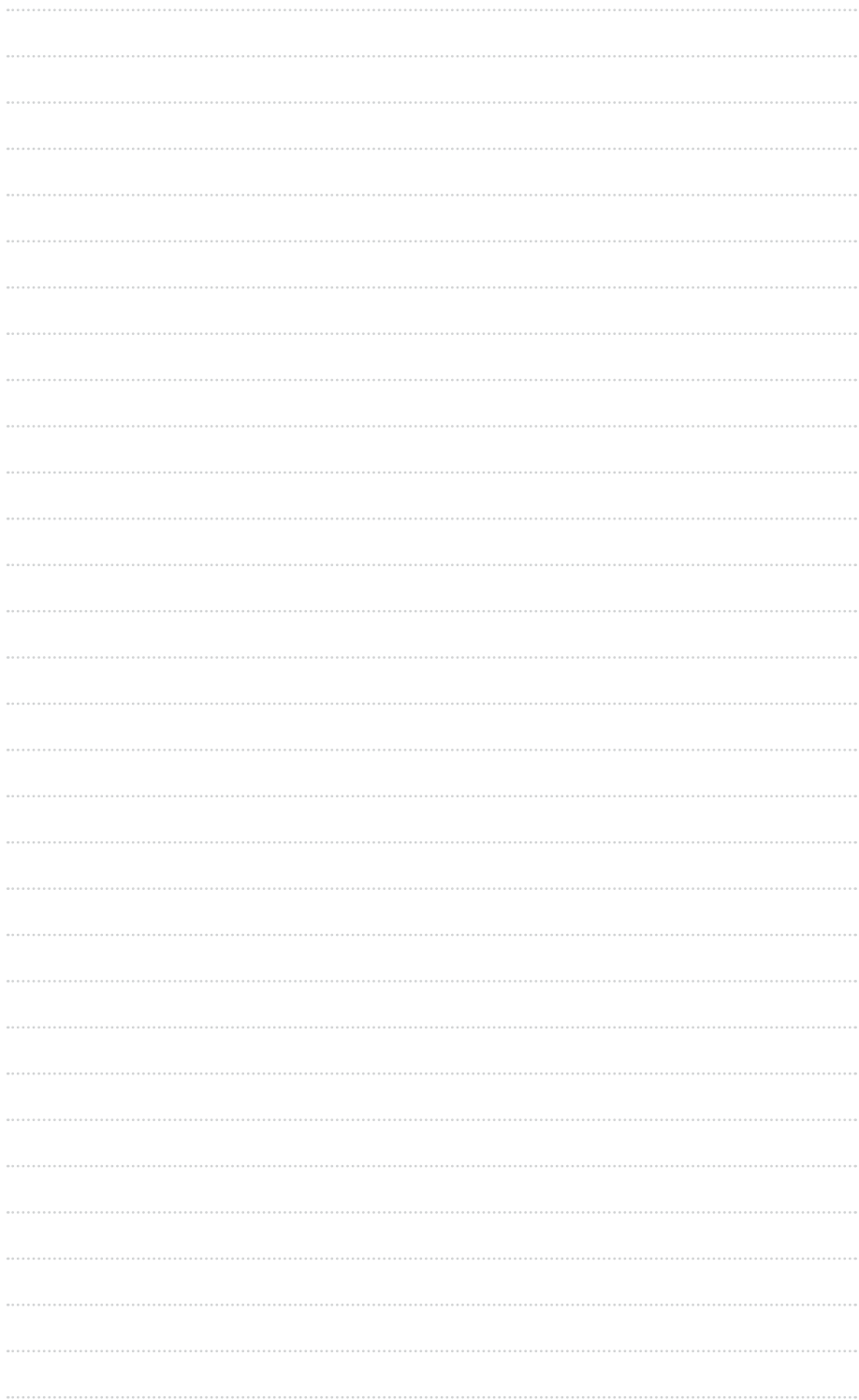
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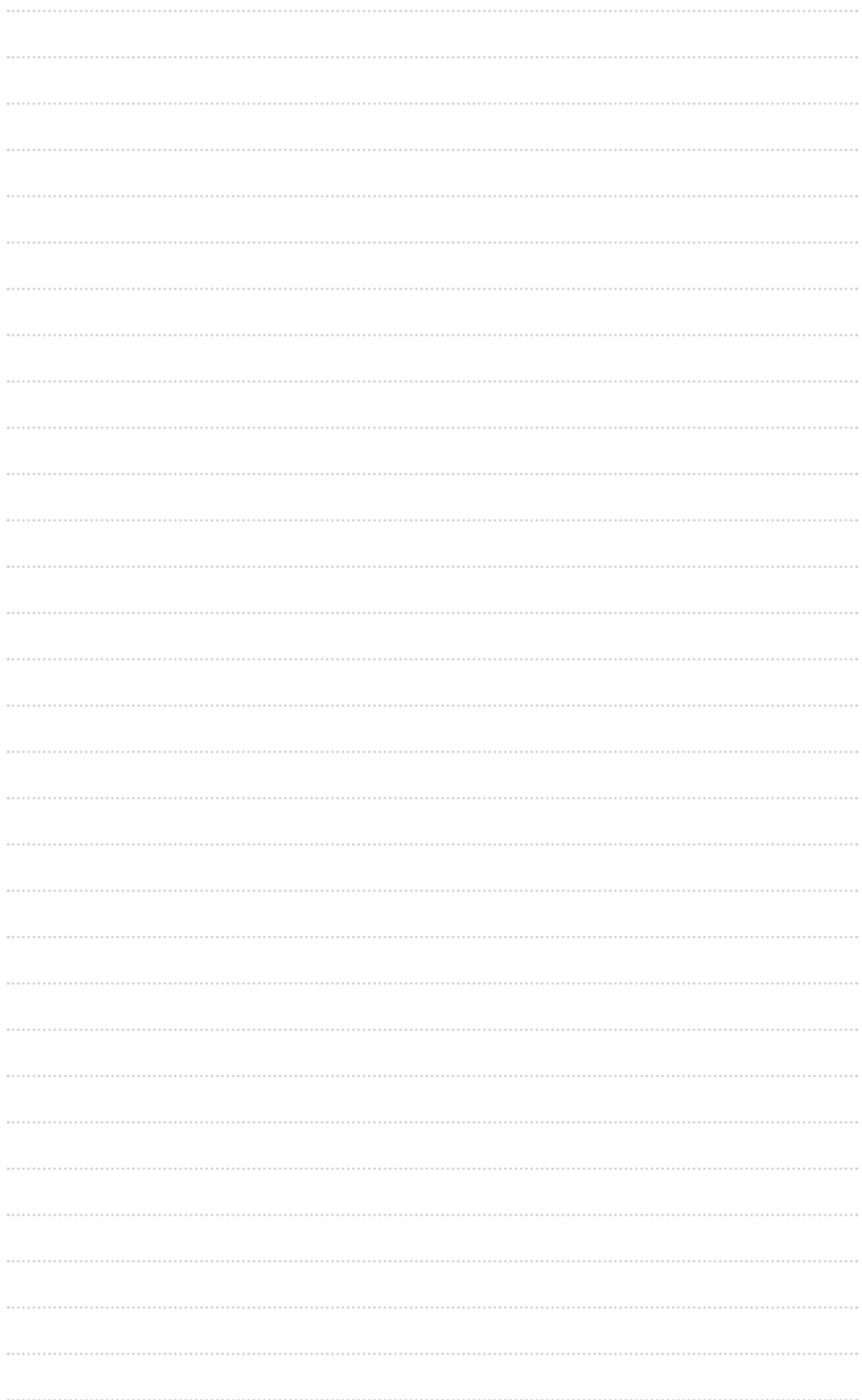
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March 2024

SUNDAY							MONDAY							TUESDAY							WEDNESDAY						
FEBRUARY							APRIL							27							28						
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				1	2	3	1	2	3	4	5	6															
4	5	6	7	8	9	10	7	8	9	10	11	12	13														
11	12	13	14	15	16	17	14	15	16	17	18	19	20														
18	19	20	21	22	23	24	21	22	23	24	25	26	27														
25	26	27	28	29			28	29	30																		
3							4							5							6						
10 <i>Daylight Savings Time Begins; Ramadan (Begins at Sunset)</i>							11							12							13						
17 <i>St. Patrick's Day</i>							18							19 <i>First Day of Spring (Equinox)</i>							20						
24 <i>Holi (Begins at Sunset); Palm Sunday</i>							25							26							27						
31																											

THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	NOTES
29	1	2	.........................
7	8 <i>International Women's Day</i>	9	.........................
14	15	16	.........................
21	22	23	.........................
28	29 <i>Good Friday</i>	30	.........................

FINANCIAL CRIMES

SAFETY AWARENESS TIPS

Financial crimes threaten the safety of financial systems worldwide. Identity theft, credit card fraud, and cyber scams are some of the most common financial crimes that threaten American citizens everyday.



25%

OF PEOPLE WHO REPORT **LOSING** MONEY TO FRAUD SAY THEY WERE **TRICKED** INTO PROVIDING **GIFT CARD NUMBERS**.

(FEDERAL TRADE COMMISSION)

MOST FINANCIAL FRAUD IS COMMITTED VIA **BANK CHECKS** AND **WIRE TRANSFERS** .



(JP MORGAN)



MORE THAN **40 MILLION** U.S. CONSUMERS FELL VICTIM TO **IDENTITY THEFT** IN 2021.

(JAVELIN STRATEGY & RESEARCH)

PREVENTION

College students and young adults are often the victims of identity theft and fraud. Incorporating the following safety tips into your daily life can help reduce your risk of victimization:

- Review credit card and bank statements often.
- Never provide credit card information over the phone unless you trust the business or person.
- Shred any documents with personal or financial information.
- If anyone tries to pressure you to send money on a very quick timeline, it is likely a scam.
- If you receive a message or phone call from an unknown source asking you for personal information, verify the authenticity of the phone number or email address by looking it up on a search engine.

REPORTING

If you believe you have been the victim of a financial crime, submit a report with the Internet Crime Complaint Center at www.ic3.gov.

If you notice suspicious or unauthorized purchases on your bank cards, contact the company immediately so they can close or suspend your account. You are not liable for charges made after you report the card lost or stolen.

Contact one of the three credit bureaus (Equifax, Experian or TransUnion) to have a fraud alert placed on your account.

March 2024

4 Monday

5 Tuesday

6 Wednesday

7 Thursday

8 Friday

Weekly Safety Tip:

To minimize the risk of stalking, harassment, and assault, use discretion in revealing personal plans with others. This can include daily schedule, favorite locations, or vacation plans.

March 2024

11 Monday

12 Tuesday

13 Wednesday

14 Thursday

15 Friday

Weekly Safety Tip:

If you are being harassed or abused by someone electronically, do not delete the messages. Take a screenshot and save any evidence so you can provide that to the police.

March 2024

18 Monday

19 Tuesday

20 Wednesday

21 Thursday

22 Friday

Weekly Safety Tip:

In the case of a robbery, follow the robber's directions, but do not volunteer more than asked for. Make note of any identifying features that you can include in a police report.

March 2024

25 Monday

26 Tuesday

27 Wednesday

28 Thursday

29 Friday

Weekly Safety Tip:

Do not advertise that you live alone. Most crimes are crimes of opportunity and criminals are more likely to target a home with fewer residents.



Handwriting practice lines consisting of 28 horizontal dotted lines.

April 2024

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY
31	1 <i>April Fool's Day</i>	2	3
7	8	9 <i>Eid al-Fitr (Begins at Sunset)</i>	10
14	15 <i>Tax Day</i>	16	17
21	22 <i>Earth Day; Passover (Begins at Sunset)</i>	23	24 <i>National Crime Victims' Rights Week (4/24 - 4/30)</i>
28	29	30	1

THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
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MARCH

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17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
						31

MAY

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19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

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CHILD ABUSE

SAFETY AWARENESS TIPS

Child abuse is any act or failure to act on the part of a parent or caretaker (including a babysitter, nanny, or camp counselor, etc) which results in death, serious physical or emotional harm, sexual abuse or exploitation; or an act or failure to act which presents an imminent risk of serious harm.



DISCIPLINE VS. ABUSE

Texas state law says that parents and individuals acting in place of parents have a legal right (and responsibility) to discipline their children as long as the discipline is reasonable and does not cause significant harm to the child. There are certain instances where a parent's attempt at discipline can become abusive, including:

- striking a child above the waist.
- using a foreign object such as wire, a belt, shoes, or rope.
- when the force used causes a "bruise, welt, swelling, or requires medication".

REPORTING

You can report any suspected cases of child abuse to the Texas Department of Family and Protective Services Abuse Hotline at www.txabusehotline.org or 1-800-252-5400

ANIMAL ABUSE

SAFETY AWARENESS TIPS

Animal cruelty is the deliberate abuse, neglect, or simple failure to take care of an animal.

PREVENTION

It is important to know the laws around responsible pet ownership. Review the laws below to make sure you know how to identify a pet that is being mistreated, neglected, or abused.

Section 42.09 “Cruelty to Livestock Animals” and Section 42.092 “Cruelty of Non-Livestock Animals” of the Texas Penal Code prohibits a person from intentionally or knowingly cruelly treating an animal. For example,

- torturing an animal.
- failing to provide adequate food, care, or shelter.
- abandoning an animal.
- seriously overworking an animal.
- causing an animal to fight with another.

Section 42.10 of the Texas Penal Code defines dog fighting as “any situation in which one dog attacks or fights with another dog” and deems offensive such activities as attending a dog fight as a spectator, or participating in the earnings or operation of a dog fighting facility. Dog fighting can be judged a felony or a misdemeanor.

Section 42.105 of the Texas Penal Code defines cockfighting as “any situation in which one cock attacks or fights with another cock” and can be judged a felony or misdemeanor crime.

REPORTING

Animal cruelty or neglect can be reported to your local police agency, animal control, or the SPCA of Texas at **www.spca.org**. You can also report to the Harris County Animal Taskforce: **832-927-PAWS** or **927paws.org**.

April 2024

1 Monday

2 Tuesday

3 Wednesday

4 Thursday

5 Friday

Weekly Safety Tip:

When utilizing public transportation, tell a trusted friend or family member your route, stop, and schedule so they can respond quickly should you encounter an emergency or go missing.

April 2024

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Weekly Safety Tip:

Never leave firearms in your vehicle. Weapons stolen from vehicles are increasingly being used in violent crimes.

April 2024

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17 Wednesday

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19 Friday

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Weekly Safety Tip:

Before exiting your vehicle, check your surroundings for any suspicious people or activity. Immediately lock your doors and remain situationally aware so you can defend yourself if approached.

April 2024

22 Monday

23 Tuesday

24 Wednesday

25 Thursday

26 Friday

Weekly Safety Tip:

Drugs, alcohol, and other substances can easily be slipped into the drink of an unsuspecting person. When out at a bar or social gathering, make sure your drink is

27 Saturday

28 Sunday

Notes

covered at all times, either by your hand or a napkin. If you must step away, ask a trusted friend to hold your drink until you return.

April 2024

29 Monday

30 Tuesday

1 Wednesday

2 Thursday

3 Friday

Weekly Safety Tip:

When creating passwords for your online accounts, ensure that the password is at least 10 characters long and includes both numbers and symbols for extra security. For example, "\$eCuR3p455w0Rd/"

4 Saturday

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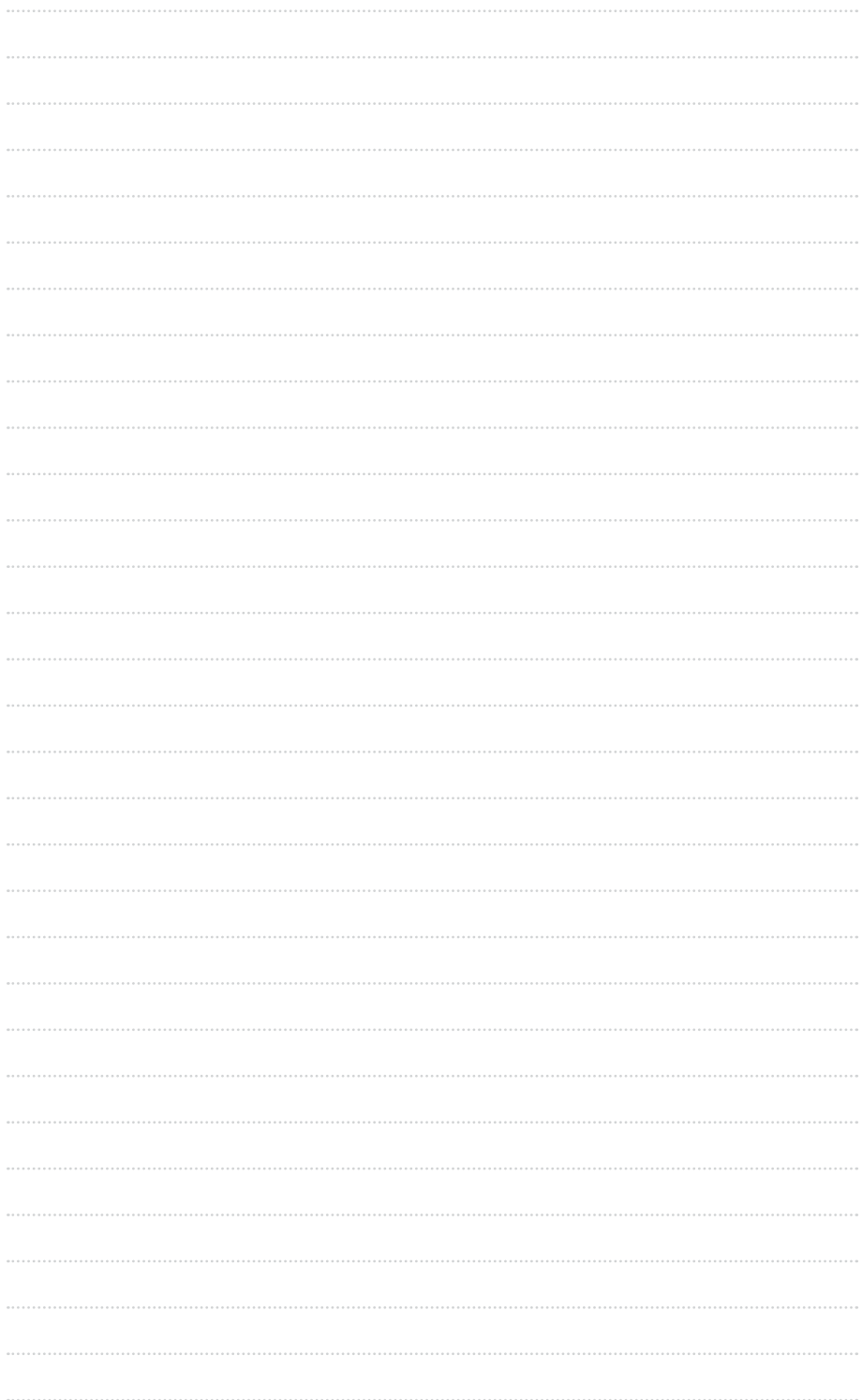
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May 2024

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY
APRIL S M Tu W Th F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30	JUNE S M Tu W Th F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30	30	1
5 <i>Cinco de Mayo</i>	6	7	8
12 <i>Mother's Day</i>	13	14	15
19 <i>Pentecost</i>	20	21	22
26	27 <i>Memorial Day</i>	28	29

THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	NOTES
2	3	4	.........................
9	10	11	.........................
16	17	18 <i>Armed Forces Day</i>	.........................
23	24	25 <i>National Missing Children's Day</i>	.........................
30	31	1	.........................

ELDER ABUSE


SAFETY AWARENESS TIPS

Elder abuse often goes unreported and a critical component of elder abuse prevention is community engagement. Elder abuse occurs amongst older adults 60 and older. The different types of abuse include physical, emotional, and sexual abuse, as well as financial exploitation, neglect, and abandonment. If you suspect elder abuse, please report!

THERE WERE

13 MILLION

REPORTS OF **ELDER ABUSE AND NEGLECT** REPORTED TO ADULT PROTECTIVE SERVICES IN 2020.



(NATIONAL ADULT MALTREATMENT REPORTING SYSTEM)




1 IN 10

ADULTS

60+ THAT LIVE AT HOME EXPERIENCE ABUSE, NEGLECT, OR EXPLOITATION.

(CENTERS FOR DISEASE CONTROL AND PREVENTION)



RATES OF ELDER ABUSE ARE HIGH IN INSTITUTIONS LIKE NURSING HOMES AND LONG-TERM CARE FACILITIES WITH 2 IN 3 STAFF REPORTING THAT THEY HAVE COMMITTED ABUSE IN THE PAST YEAR.

(WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION)

PREVENTION

Knowing the signs of potential abuse can help you intervene when a loved one is in danger. Signs of elder abuse can include:

- **Physical:** bruises, sores, burns, broken bones, abrasions.
- **Emotional:** withdrawal/isolation, low self-esteem, hopelessness, fear, self-injury, change in eating or sleeping habits.
- **Sexual:** injuries to the genital area, difficulty moving or sitting.
- **Neglect/Abandonment:** unkempt appearance, unsanitary living conditions, untreated injuries or illnesses, weight loss, insect infestations, malnutrition.
- **Financial Exploitation:** missing cash or valuables, forged signatures, false promises in exchange for money, unauthorized credit card charges, sending large amounts of money to someone online or over the phone.

Empowering our elderly population to use their voice to express any concerns is paramount. Maintaining open and consistent communication can help you keep them safe.

Ask your loved one:

- Is there anyone or anything currently making you feel uncomfortable?
- Are you receiving appropriate care and treatment?

REPORTING

If an older adult is in immediate, life-threatening danger, call 911. Anyone who suspects that an older adult is being mistreated should contact a local **Adult Protective Services office** (+800-252-5400 or txtabusehotline.org), **Long-Term Care Ombudsman**, or **police**.

May 2024

6 Monday

7 Tuesday

8 Wednesday

9 Thursday

10 Friday

Weekly Safety Tip:

Report any instances of animal abuse or neglect to the SPCA of Texas at www.sPCA.org. Animal cruelty correlates strongly with other crimes and reporting it early can prevent further violence against other animals, people, or property.

11 Saturday

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May 2024

13 Monday

14 Tuesday

15 Wednesday

16 Thursday

17 Friday

Weekly Safety Tip:

Be wary of engaging with strangers online or over the phone. Scammers are utilizing artificial intelligence, including voice-changing software, to trick unsuspecting victims into giving up sensitive information.

18 Saturday

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May 2024

20 Monday

21 Tuesday

22 Wednesday

23 Thursday

24 Friday

Weekly Safety Tip:

People that identify as LGBTQIA+ are at increased risk of assault and other forms of victimization. If you are the victim of a hate crime, contact your local police

May 2024

27 Monday

28 Tuesday

29 Wednesday

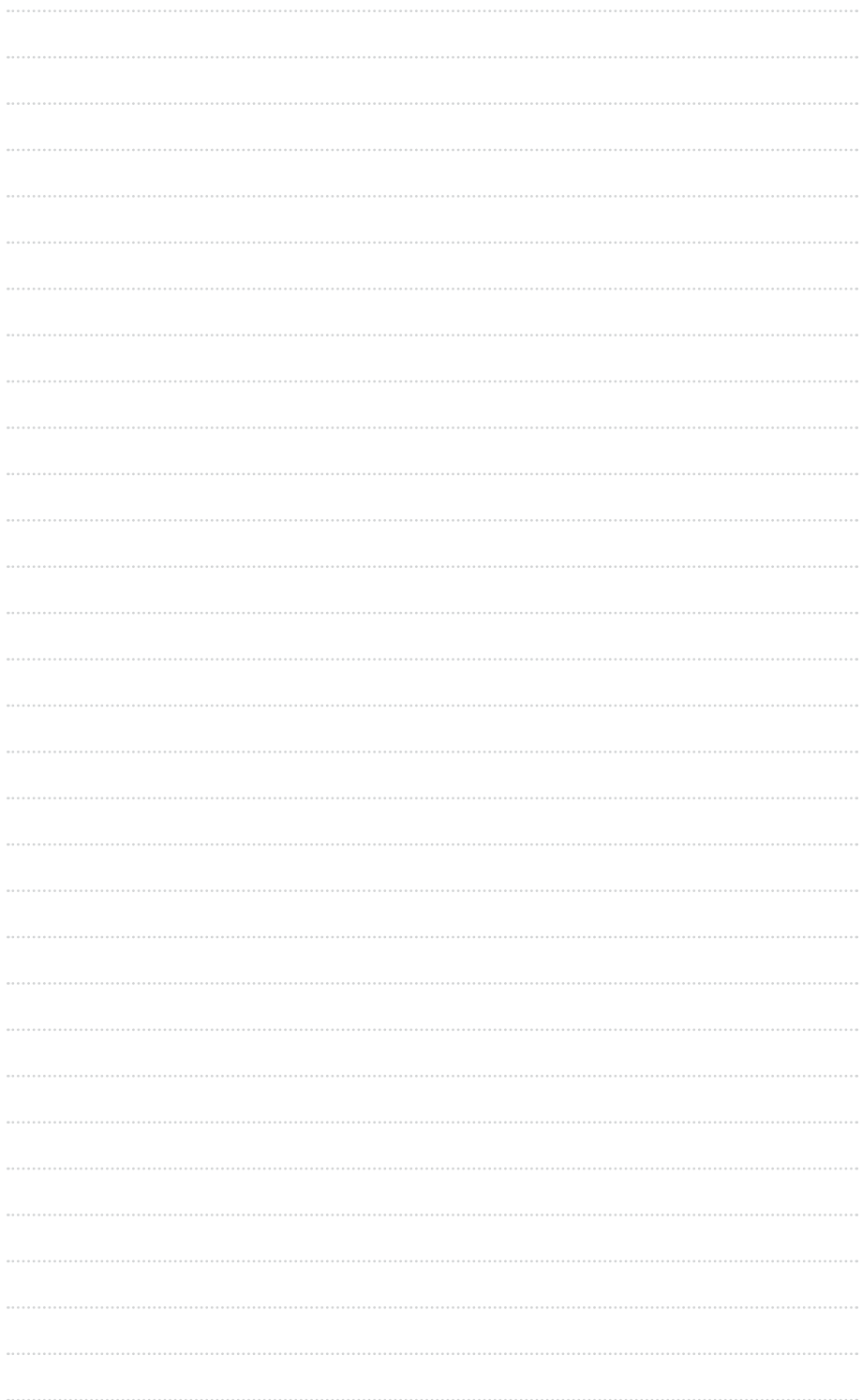
30 Thursday

31 Friday

Weekly Safety Tip:

Before moving into a new house or apartment, ensure all exterior door locks on your new home are changed. You never know who may have had access to the building or home before you.





June 2024

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY
MAY	JULY	28	29
S M Tu W Th F S	S M Tu W Th F S		
1 2 3 4	1 2 3 4 5 6		
5 6 7 8 9 10 11	7 8 9 10 11 12 13		
12 13 14 15 16 17 18	14 15 16 17 18 19 20		
19 20 21 22 23 24 25	21 22 23 24 25 26 27		
26 27 28 29 30 31	28 29 30 31		
2	3	4	5
9	10	11	12
16 <i>Father's Day</i>	17 <i>Eid al-Adha</i> <i>(Begins at Sunset)</i>	18	19 <i>Juneteenth</i>
23	24	25	26
30			

THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	NOTES
30	31	1	.....
		
		
		
		
6	7	8	.....
		
		
		
		
13	14 <i>Flag Day</i>	15	.....
		
		
		
		
20 <i>First Day of Summer (Solstice)</i>	21	22	.....
		
		
		
		
27	28	29	.....
		
		
		
		

LGBTQIA+

SAFETY AWARENESS TIPS

People that identify as LGBTQIA+ are nearly four times more likely to experience violent forms of victimization, including rape, sexual assault, and aggravated assault compared to non-LGBTQIA+ individuals.

While we can never fully understand another person's life experiences, we can do our best to learn about them and how we can support them.

Many of us refrain from talking about sexual orientation and gender identity or expression because it feels taboo, or because we're afraid of saying the wrong thing. Reviewing the terms listed below can help us become more informed on LGBTQIA+ issues, and more prepared to intervene in potentially harmful situations.

(Definitions taken from HRC)

Asexual

Often called "ace" for short, asexual refers to a complete or partial lack of sexual attraction or lack of interest in sexual activity with others.

Bisexual

A person emotionally, romantically or sexually attracted to more than one sex, gender or gender identity though not necessarily simultaneously, in the same way or to the same degree. Sometimes used interchangeably with pansexual.

Cisgender

A term used to describe a person whose gender identity aligns with those typically associated with the sex assigned to them at birth.

Gay

A person who is emotionally, romantically or sexually attracted to members of the same gender. Men, women and non-binary people may use this term to describe themselves.

Gender Identity

How individuals perceive themselves and what they call themselves. One's gender identity can be the same or different from their sex assigned at birth.

Gender Expression

External appearance of one’s gender identity, usually expressed through behavior, clothing, body characteristics or voice, and which may or may not conform to socially defined behaviors and characteristics typically associated with being either masculine or feminine.

Lesbian

A woman who is emotionally, romantically or sexually attracted to other women.

LGBTQIA+

An acronym for “lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, intersex, queer/questioning, and asexual” with a “+” sign to recognize the limitless sexual orientations and gender identities used by members of the community.

Non-binary

An adjective describing a person who does not identify exclusively as a man or a woman. Non-binary people may identify as being both a man and a woman, somewhere in between, or as falling completely outside these categories.

Pansexual

Describes someone who has the potential for emotional, romantic or sexual attraction to people of any gender though not necessarily simultaneously, in the same way or to the same degree. Sometimes used interchangeably with bisexual.

Queer

A term people often use to express a spectrum of identities and orientations that are counter to the mainstream. This term was previously used as a slur, but has been reclaimed by many parts of the LGBTQIA+ movement.

Transgender

An umbrella term for people whose gender identity and/or expression is different from cultural expectations based on the sex they were assigned at birth.

REPORTING

If you or someone you know is victimized due to their sexual orientation or gender identity, please report it immediately to your local police department, or to the FBI at **tips.FBI.gov**.

June 2024

3 Monday

4 Tuesday

5 Wednesday

6 Thursday

7 Friday

Weekly Safety Tip:

Don't leave items outside that burglars can use to break into your home. Common items like baseball bats, large rocks, or flower pots can easily be used to break a window or door.

June 2024

10 Monday

11 Tuesday

12 Wednesday

13 Thursday

14 Friday

Weekly Safety Tip:

Non-consensual intimate image sharing, also known as “revenge porn”, is a crime. If explicit photos of you are being shared without your permission, save any evidence

June 2024

17 Monday

18 Tuesday

19 Wednesday

20 Thursday

21 Friday

Weekly Safety Tip:

Keep an emergency kit in your home and car at all times. The kit should include first aid items, a flashlight, basic tools (pliers, screwdriver, utility knife, duct tape),

June 2024

24 Monday

25 Tuesday

26 Wednesday

27 Thursday

28 Friday

Weekly Safety Tip:

If you think your friend is a victim of relational abuse either physically, emotionally, or electronically, continue to support them, help them create a safety plan, and refer

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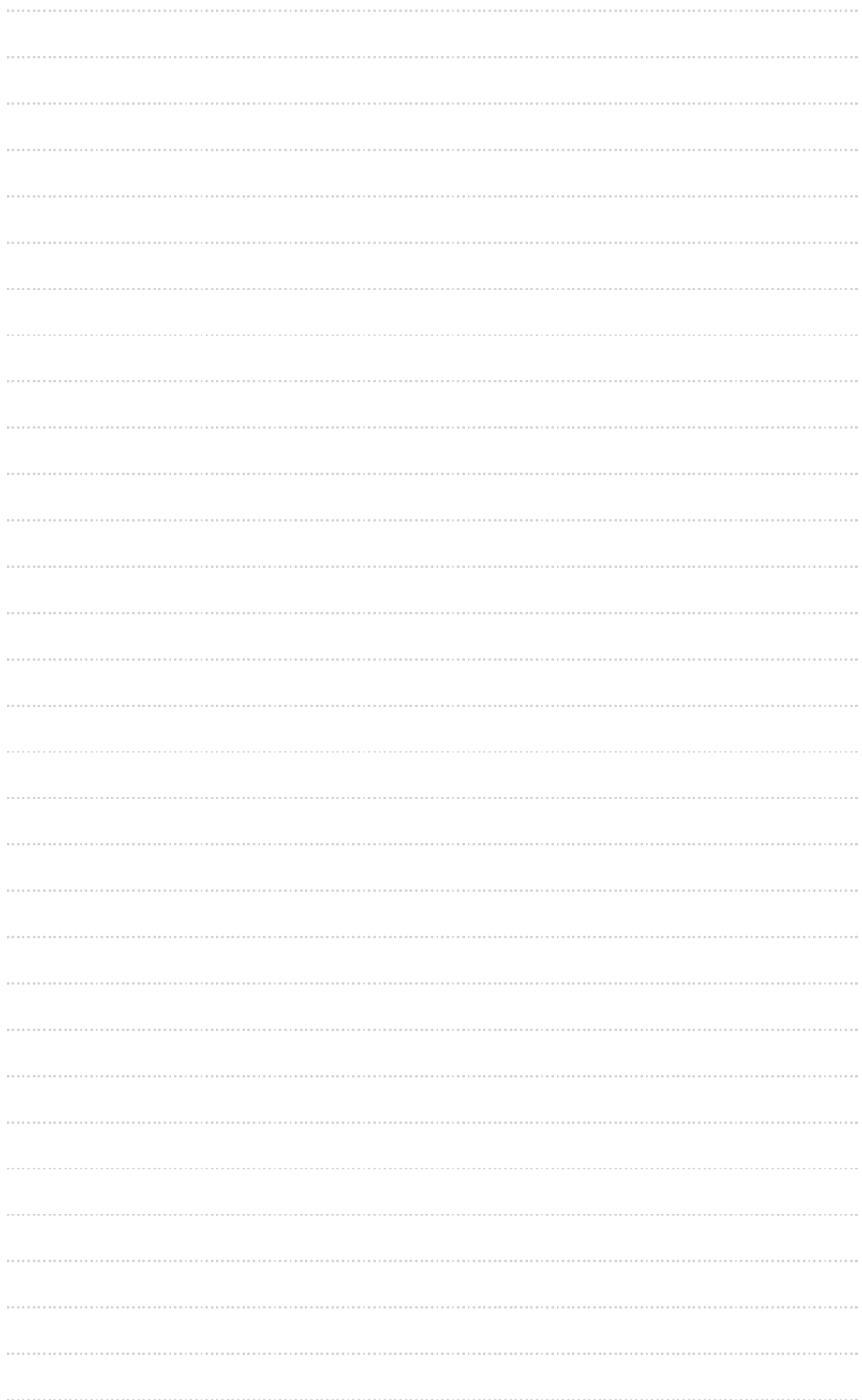
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them to those who can help. Avoid isolating them, pressuring them to leave the relationship before they are ready, or blaming them for their situation.





July 2024

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY
30	1	2	3
7	8	9	10
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THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
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NOTES

4 *Independence Day*

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JUN

AUGUST

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9	10	11	12	13	14	15	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
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FIRE & FIREWORKS

SAFETY AWARENESS TIPS

Fireworks and celebrations go hand-in-hand, but reckless use of fireworks endangers children, their families, homes, and their communities. If used improperly, fireworks can cause severe burns and other bodily injuries, and can even spark deadly fires.



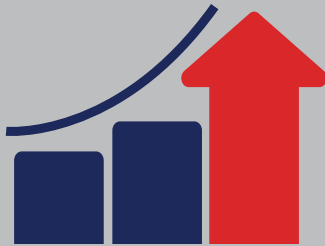
FIREWORKS START AN
AVERAGE OF ABOUT
19,000
FIRES EACH YEAR.

(NATIONAL SAFETY COUNCIL)

SPARKLERS
CAN BURN AT
TEMPERATURES
OF ABOUT
2,000° F
WHICH IS HOT
ENOUGH TO
MELT GOLD.



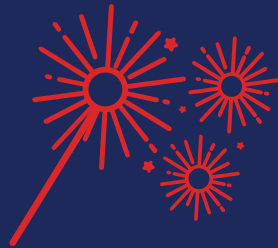
(NATIONAL SAFETY COUNCIL)



IN 2020, THERE WAS A
50% INCREASE
IN FIREWORK RELATED
DEATHS AND INJURIES
COMPARED TO 2019.

(US CONSUMER PRODUCT
SAFETY COMMISSION)

SPARKLERS ALONE
ACCOUNT FOR
MORE THAN 25%
OF EMERGENCY VISITS
FOR **FIREWORKS**
INJURIES.



(NATIONAL SAFETY COUNCIL)

PREVENTION

The safest way to view fireworks is by attending a fireworks display. In the case that you and your loved ones utilize fireworks, consider the following:

Know the Law

- The Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF) is responsible for regulating explosives, including fireworks, to prevent the mishandling and illegal use of explosives materials.
- Each year ATF investigates explosives accidents involving the manufacture of illegal explosives devices. These accidents often involve serious injury or death and extensive damage to property.
- Parents/Guardians are responsible for the illegal possession and/or use of fireworks by minors.
- Regardless of where you live, it is illegal to use fireworks near churches, hospitals, licensed childcare centers, and schools (unless you have written permission).
- Check with your local fire department for more information on firework laws in your area and check to see if a burn ban is in place before using fireworks.

Stay Safe

- Only buy labeled fireworks - any unlabeled fireworks are illegal.
- Store fireworks in a cool, dry place.
- Keep cigarettes away from fireworks.
- Always use fireworks outside and have a bucket of water and a hose close by.
- Keep pets indoors to reduce the risk injury, animals have sensitive ears and can become extremely frightened with the sound of fireworks.
- Do not wear loose clothing when lighting fireworks!
- Light fireworks one at a time and remember to point and shoot fireworks away from people.
- Soak any used fireworks in a bucket of water before throwing them away.

REPORTING

Any illegal use of fireworks can be reporting to your local police department.

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Weekly Safety Tip:

Enable two-factor identification on your personal accounts, when possible. Using only a single factor, like a password, leaves you vulnerable to someone trying to

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Weekly Safety Tip:

To protect your Internet browsing data, use a secure VPN connection (virtual private network). Using a VPN allows you to have a secure connection between your device

July 2024

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Weekly Safety Tip:

When using a rideshare app, follow the route in your own maps app and note any odd or unnecessary route changes. Share your location and estimated time of arrival with

July 2024

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Weekly Safety Tip:

Get to know the neighbors in your dormitory or student housing facility as it can make it easier to identify unknown or suspicious persons.

July 2024

29 Monday

30 Tuesday

31 Wednesday

1 Thursday

2 Friday

Weekly Safety Tip:

Should you choose to utilize fireworks, create a safe launching zone. Find a flat, open area away from buildings trees and other flammable materials to launch your fireworks.

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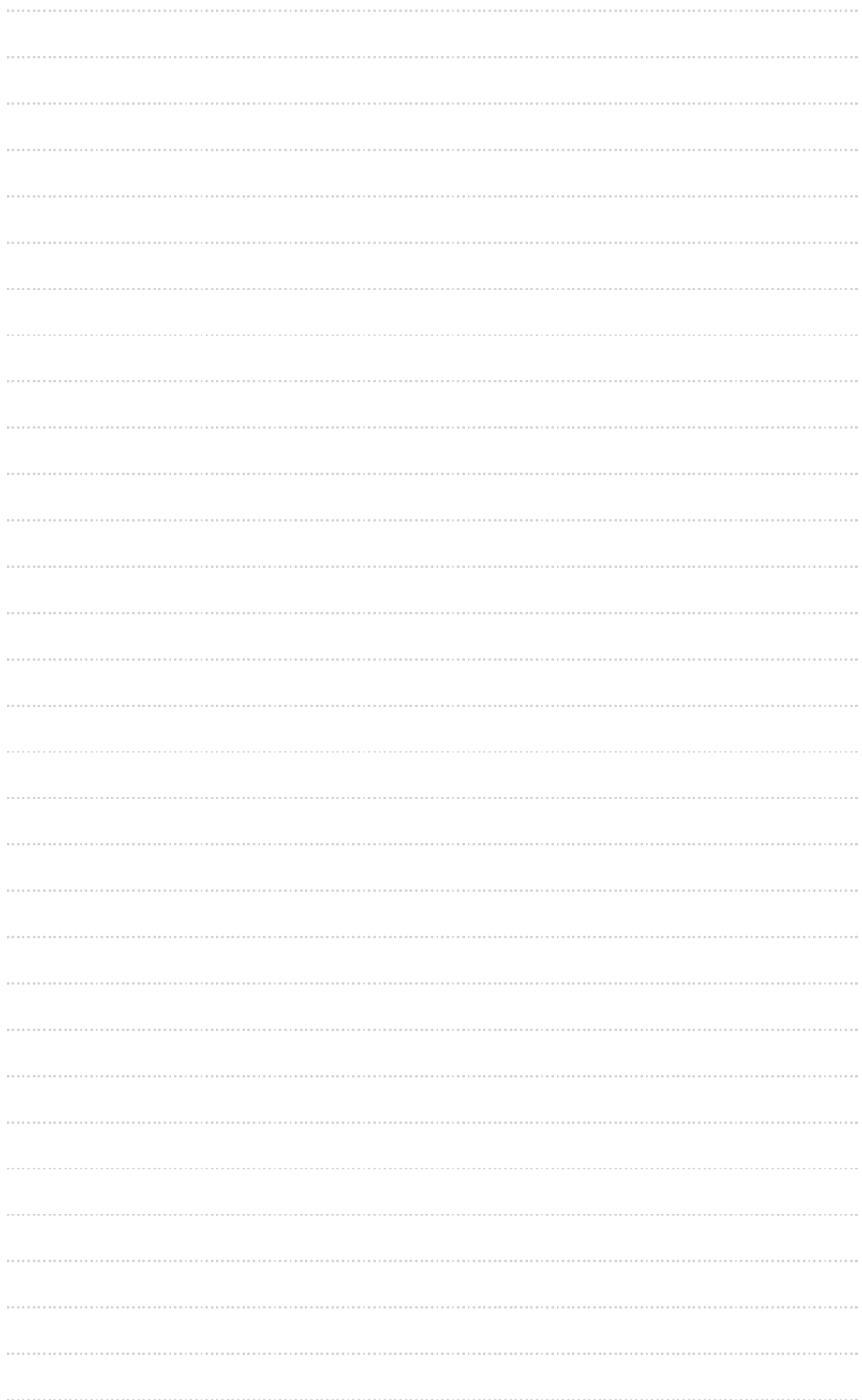
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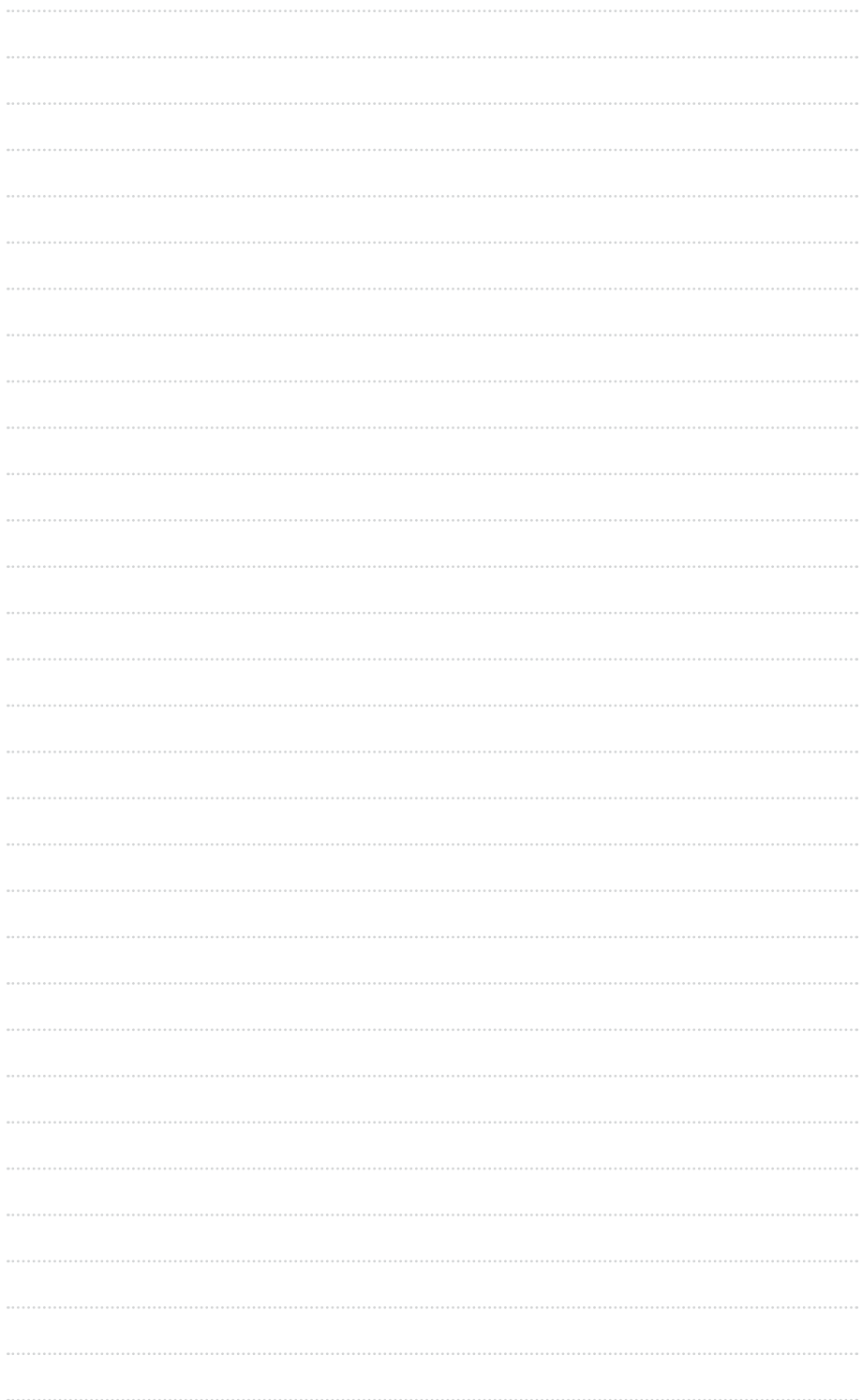
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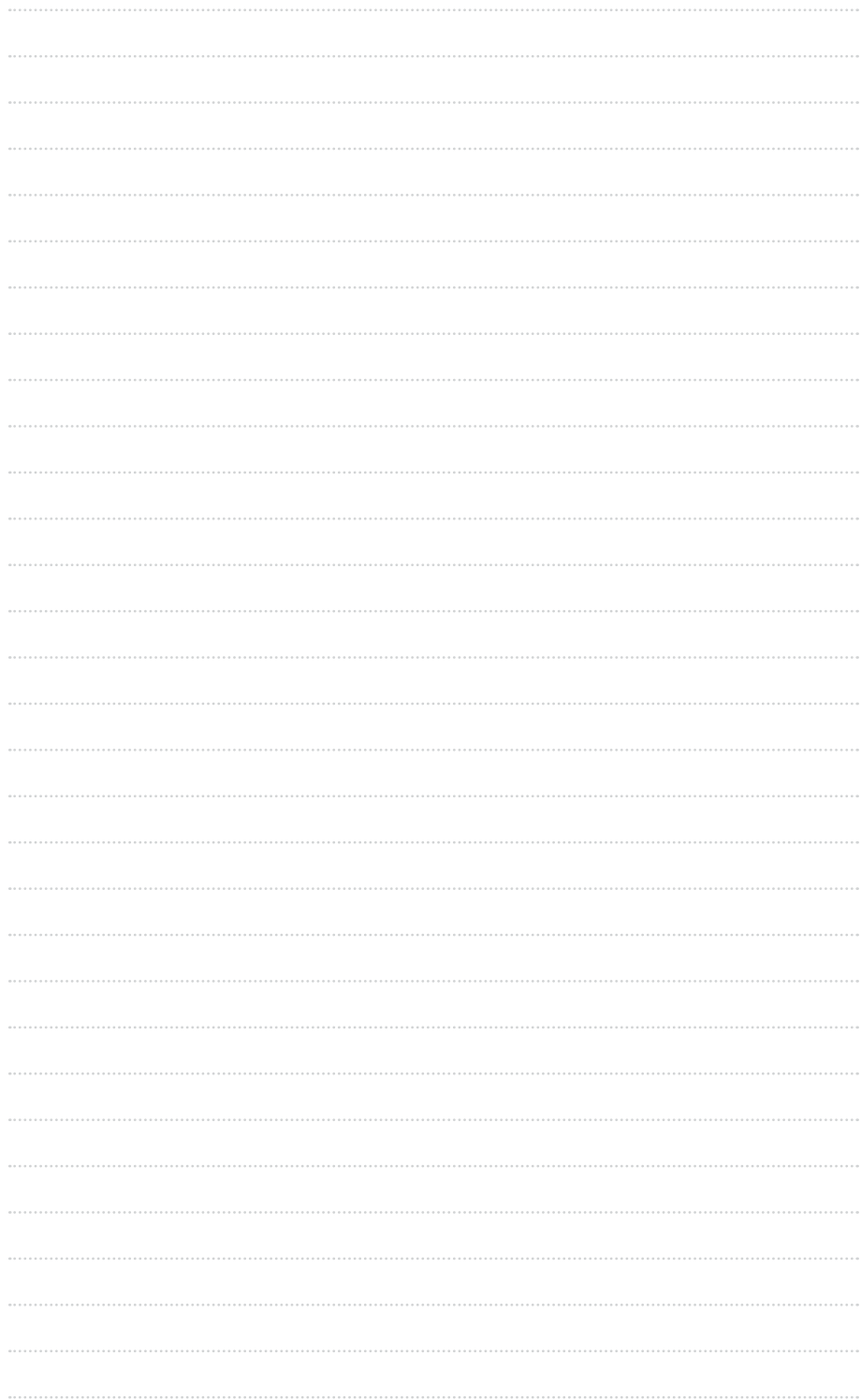
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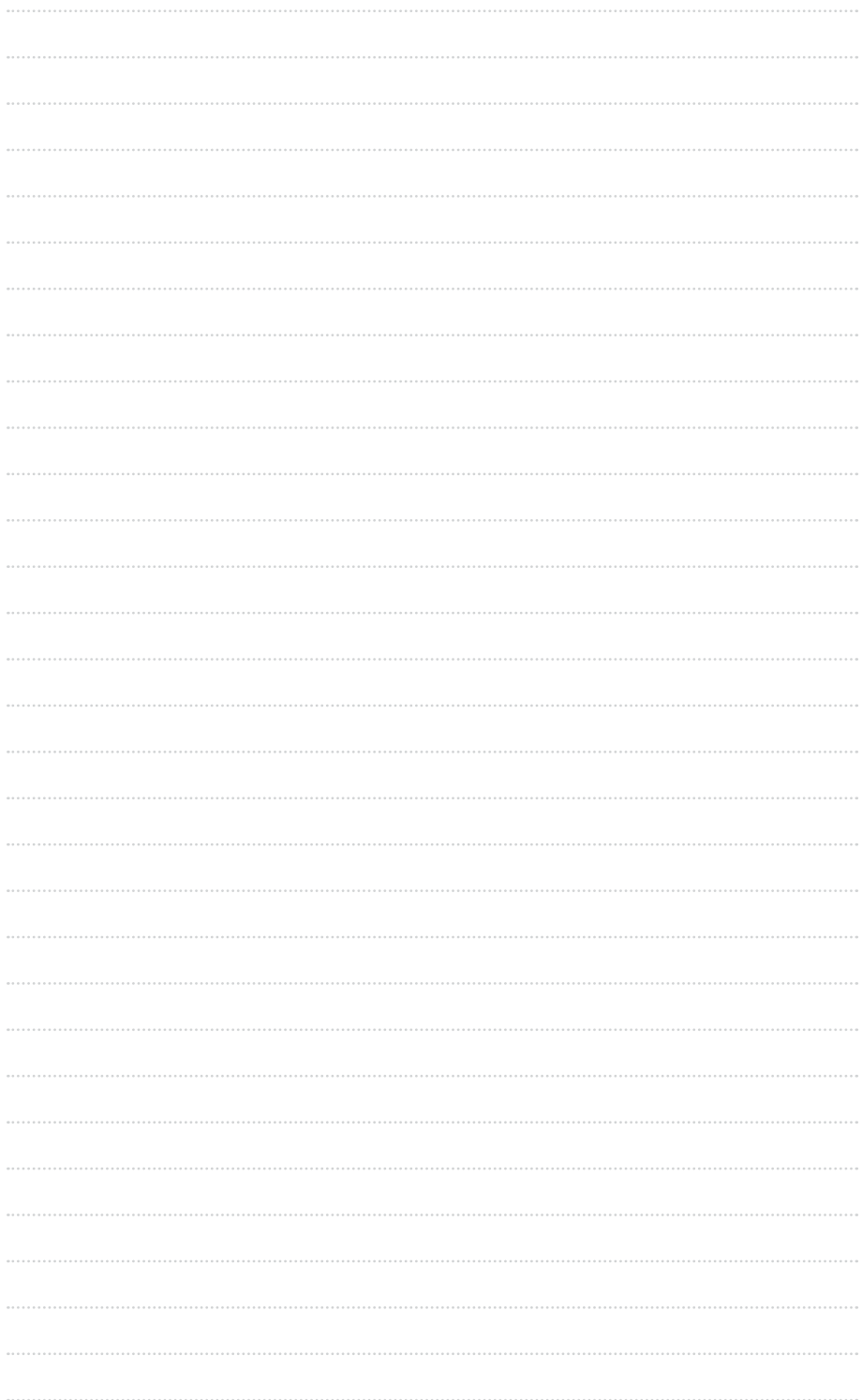


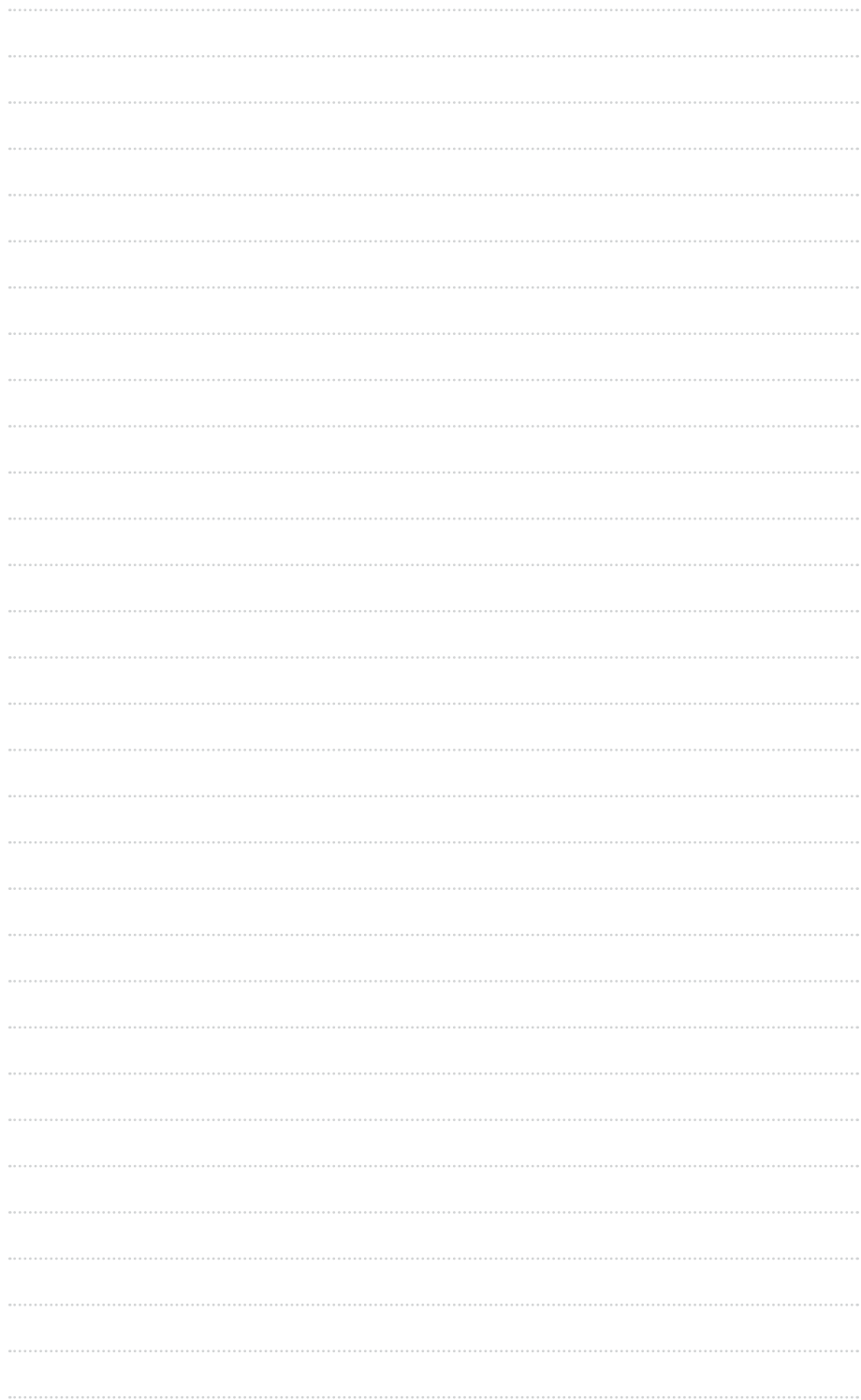


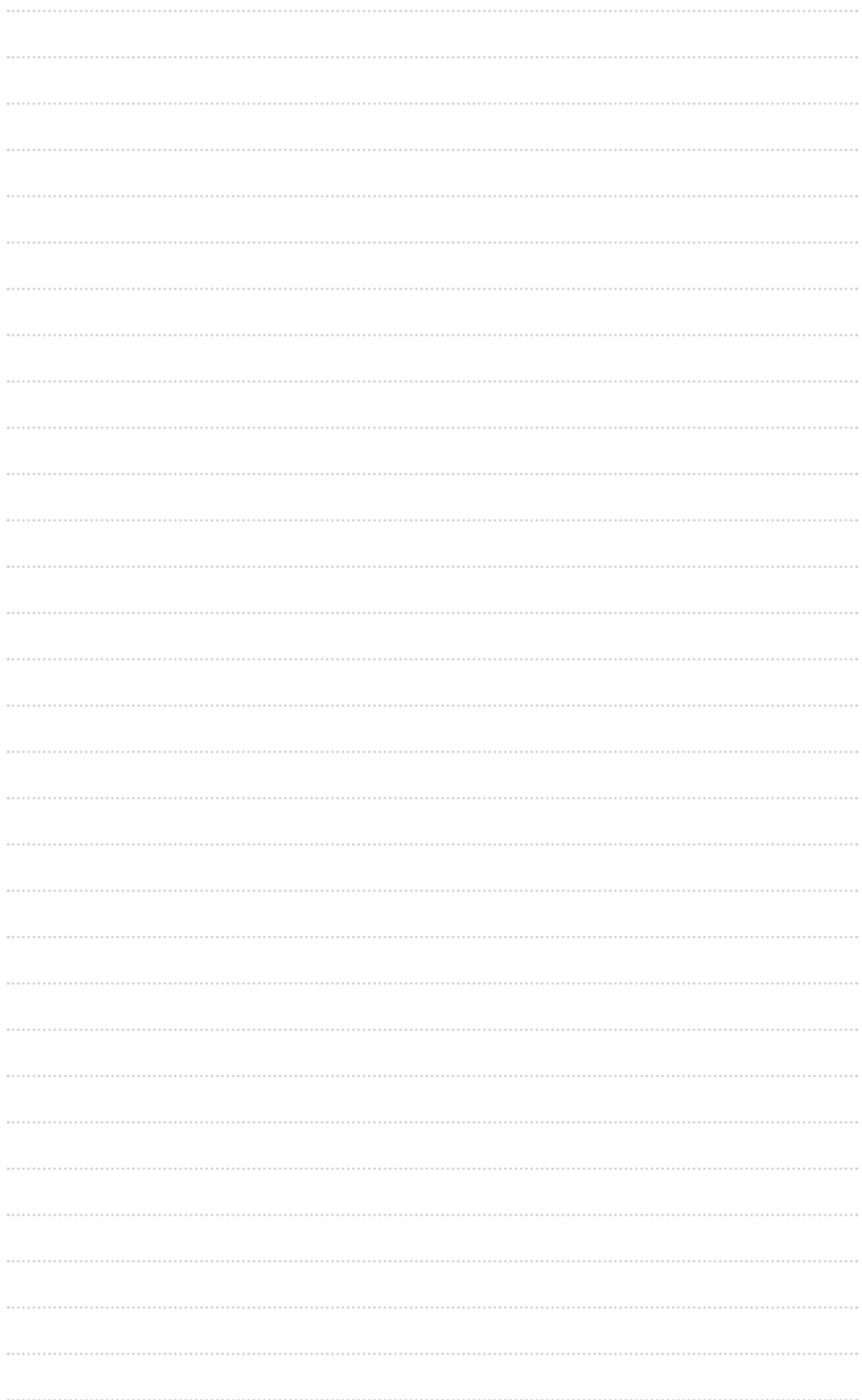


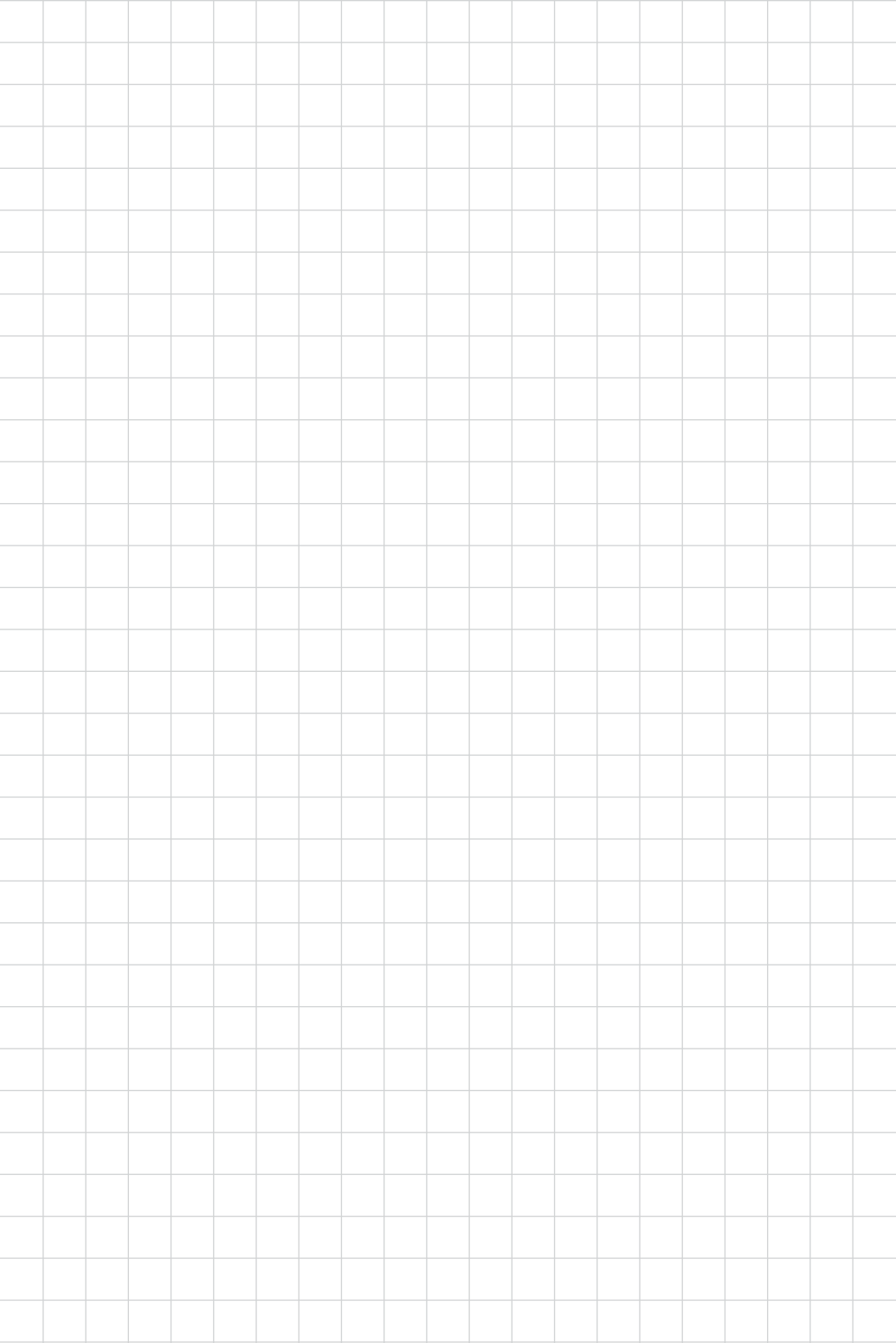


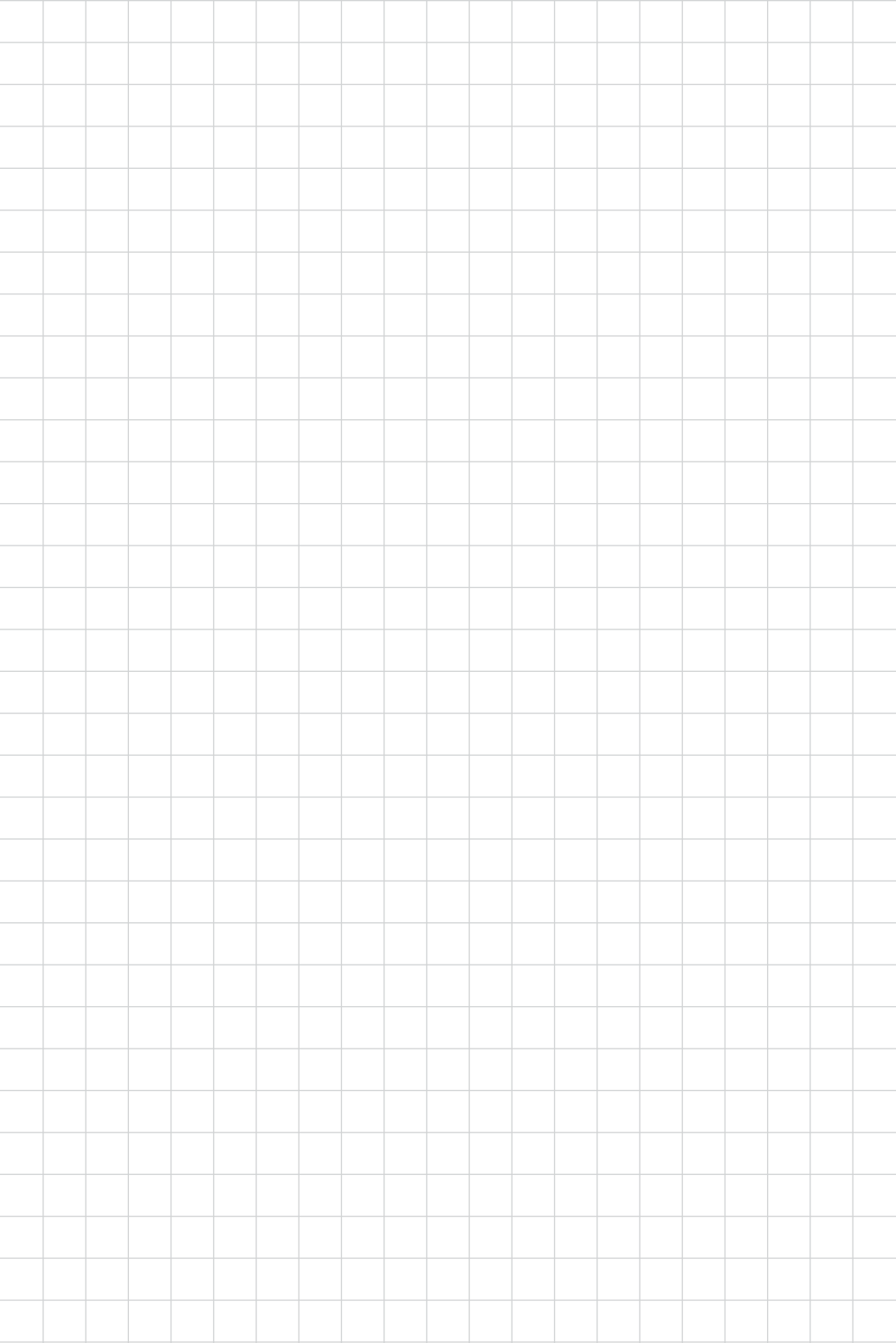


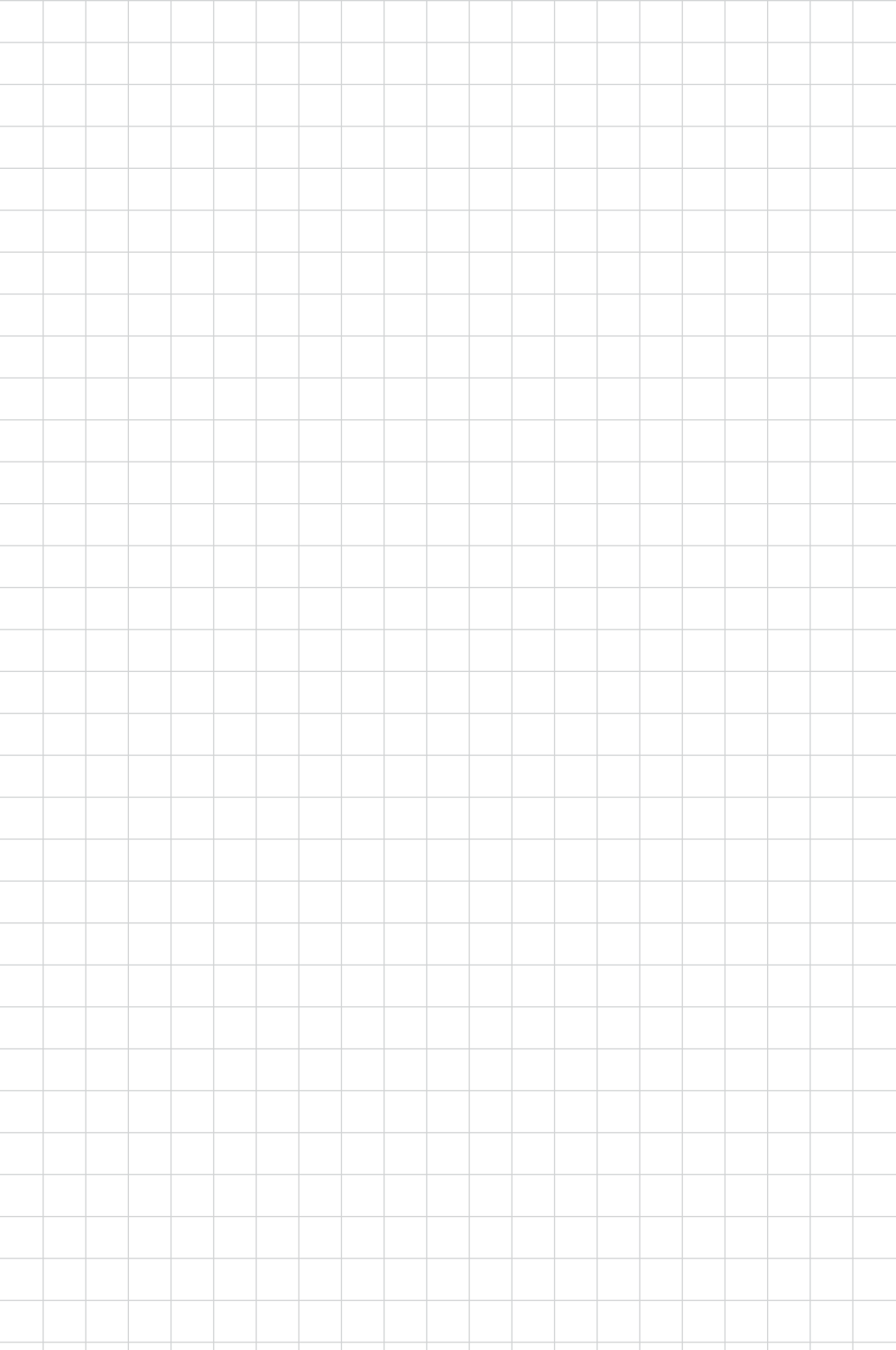


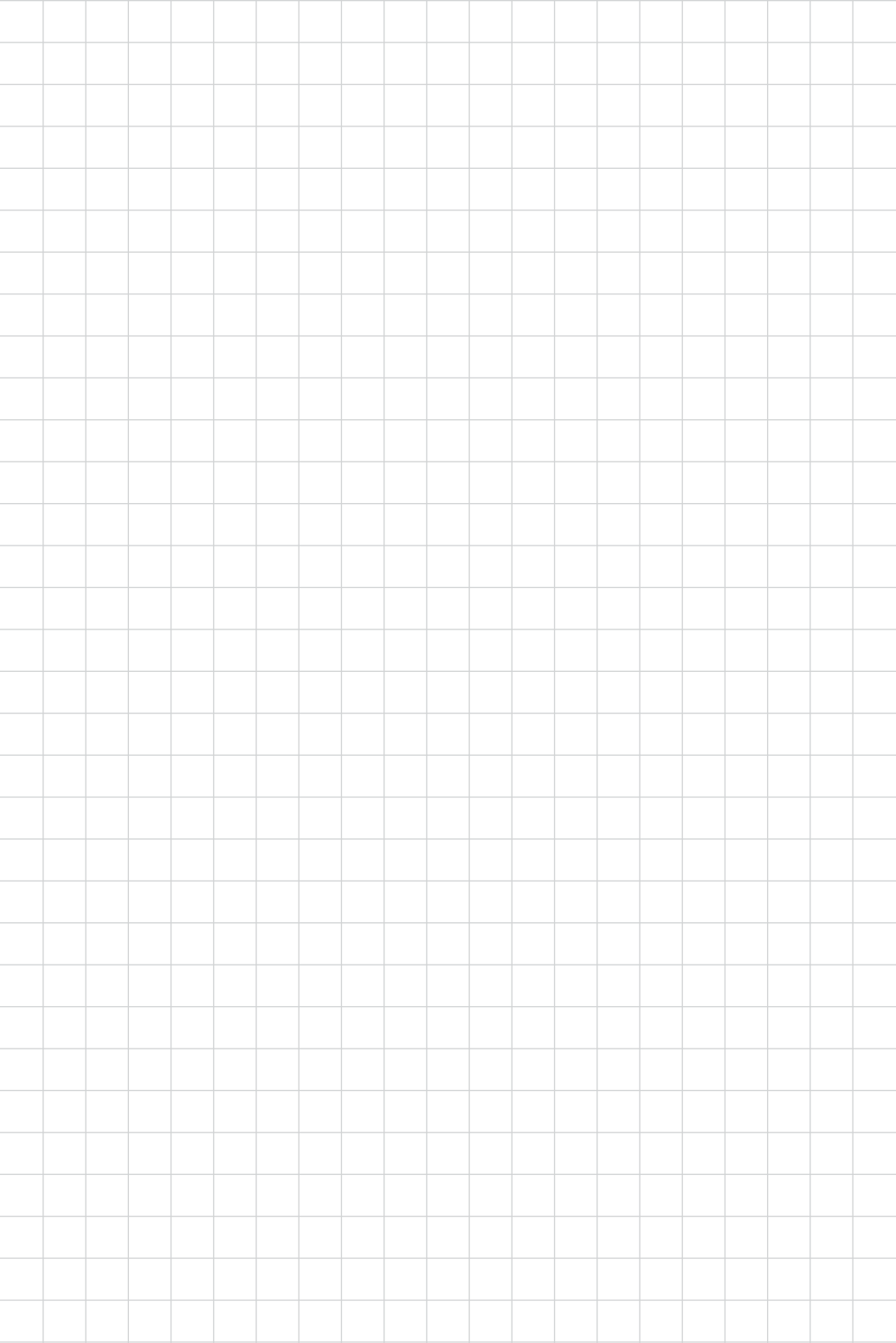


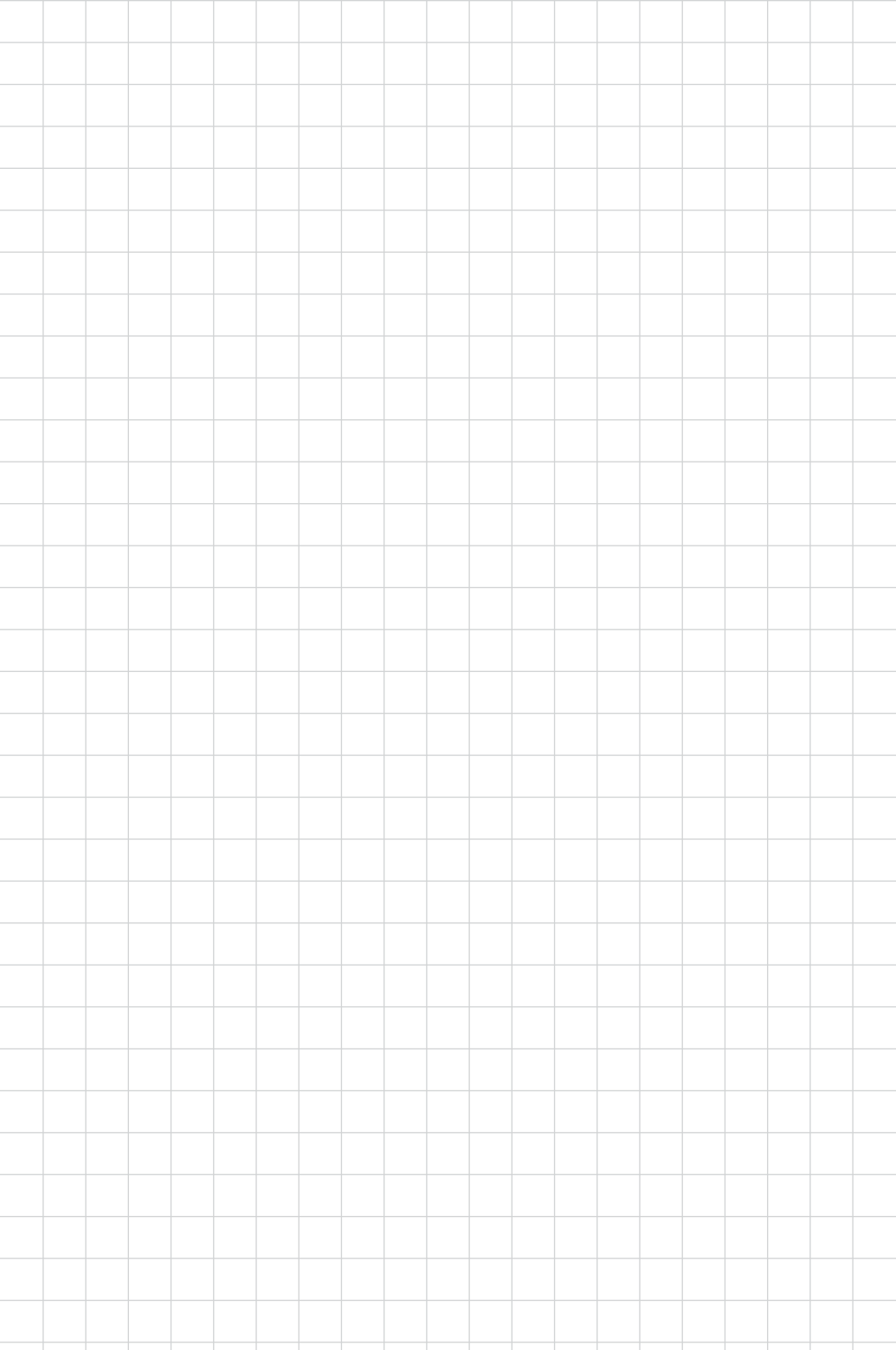


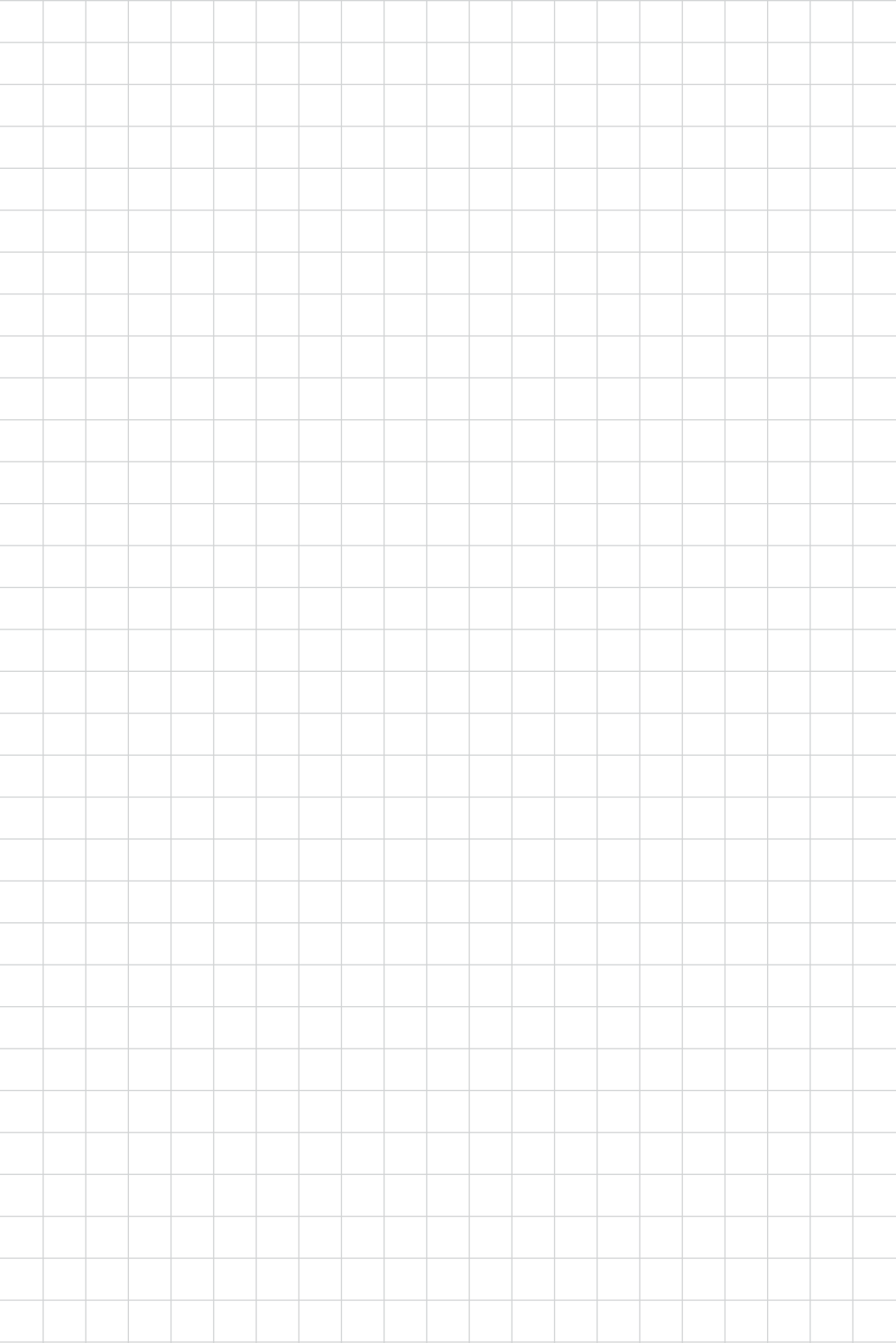


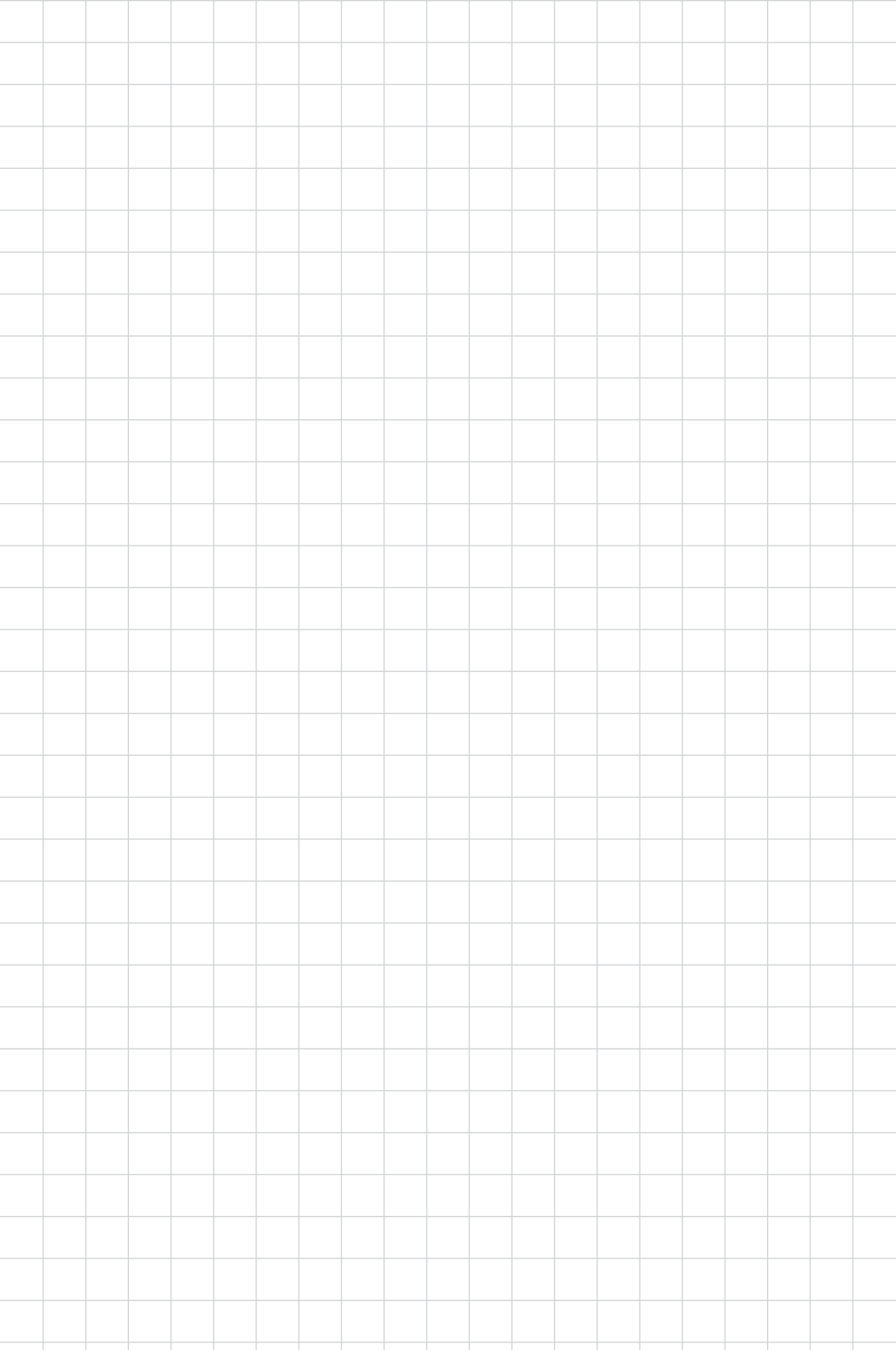


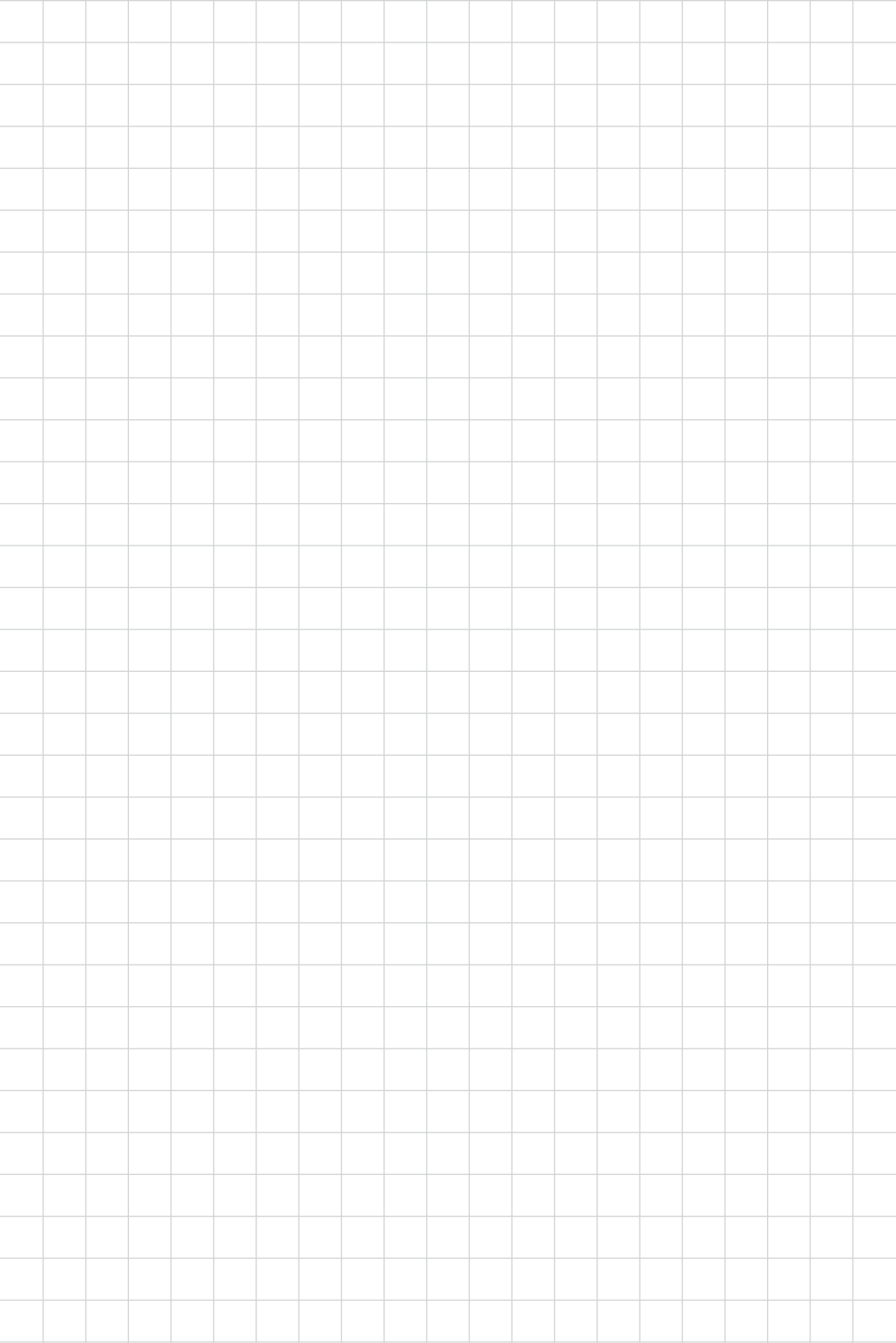


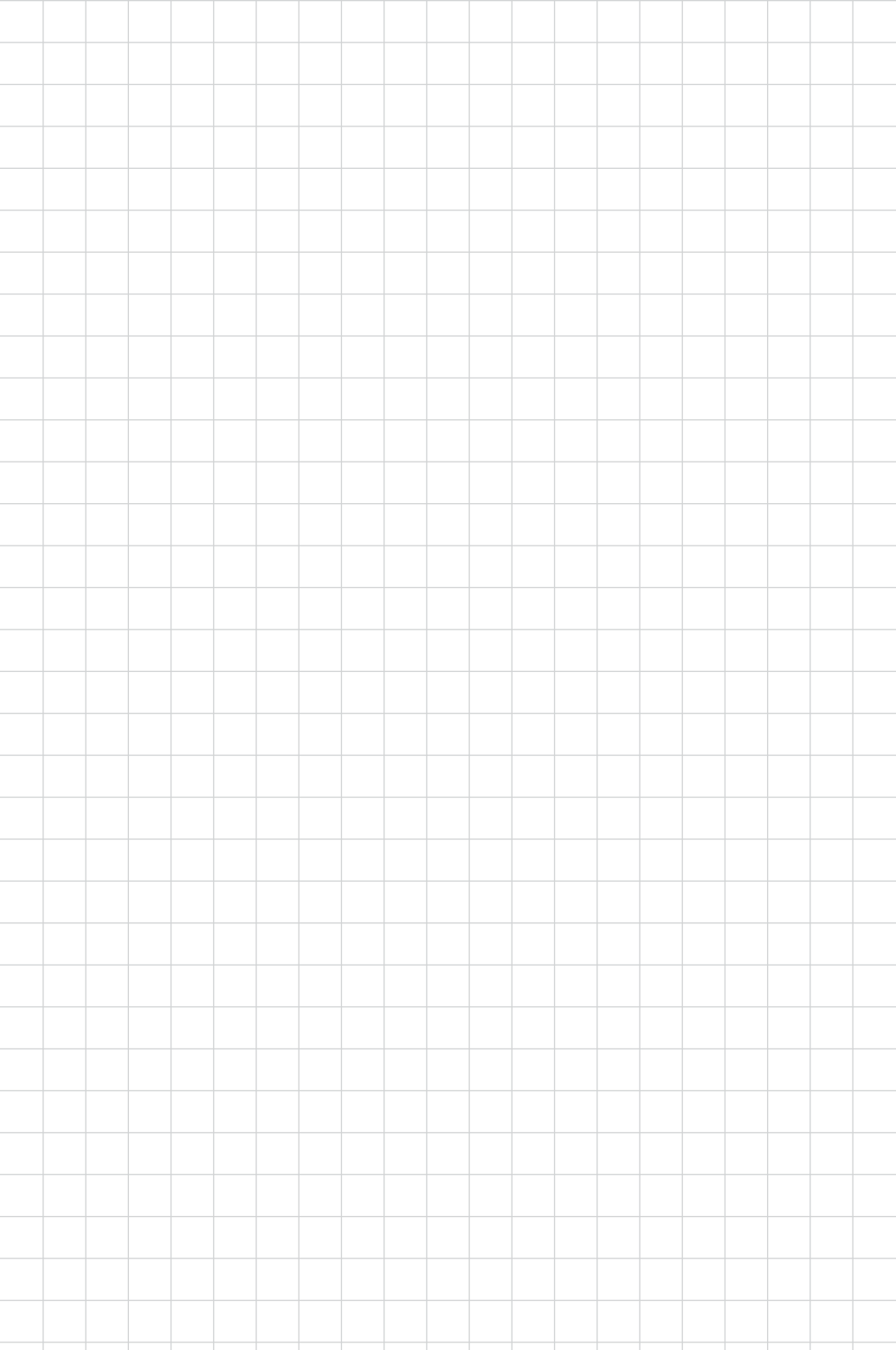


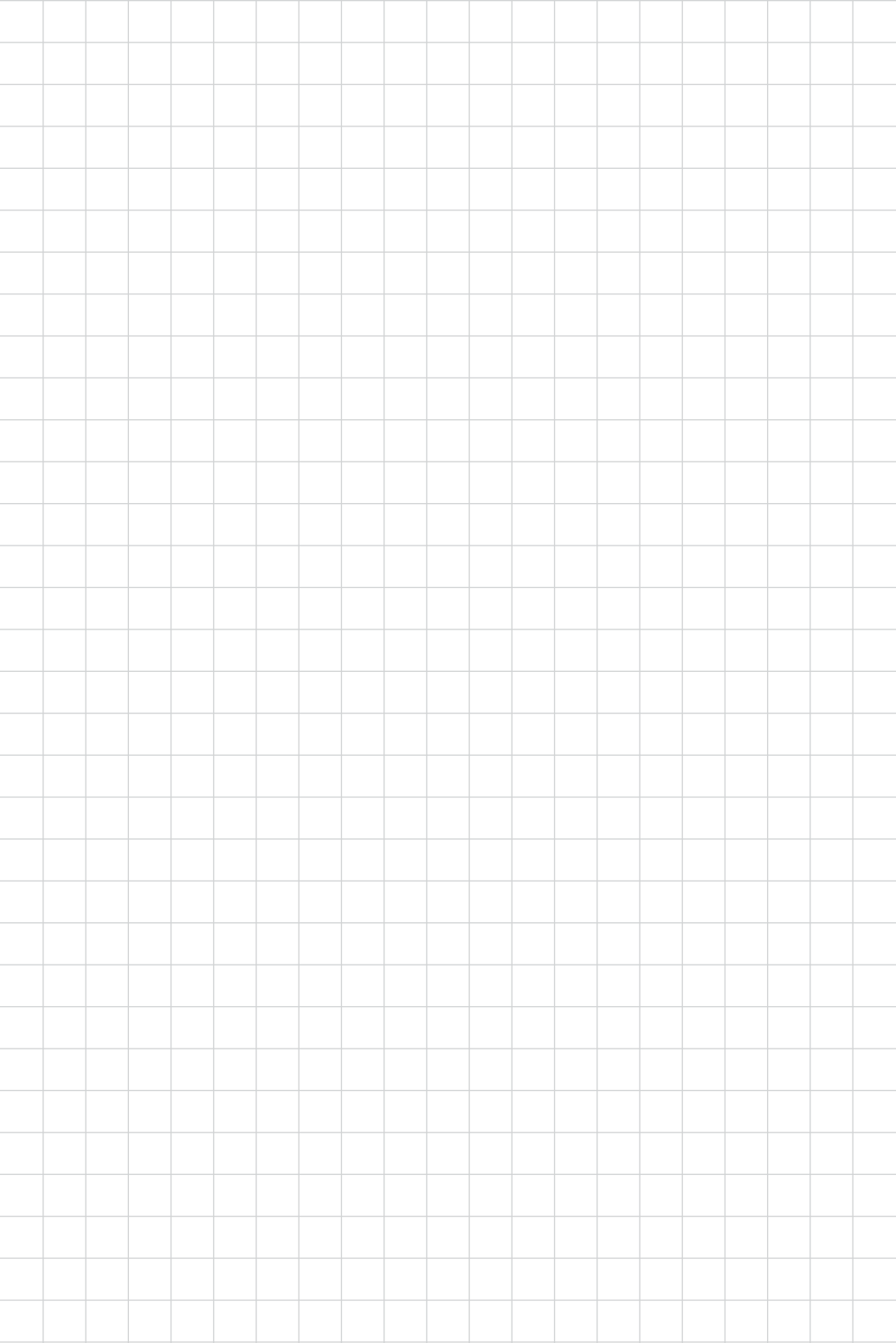


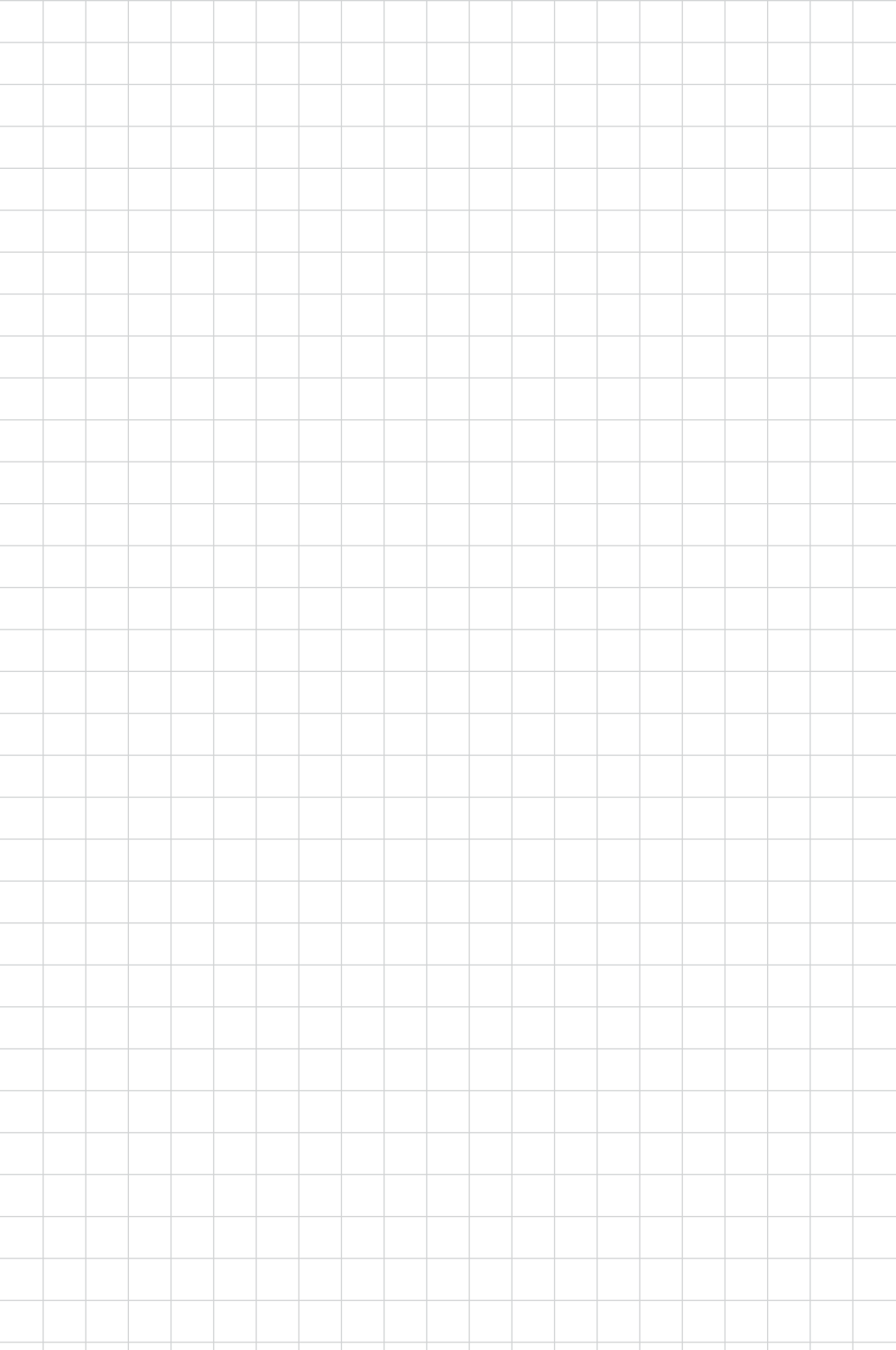












ACADEMIC RESOURCE GUIDE

Citation Guide (scribbr.com)

In-Text Citations:

Both MLA and APA use parenthetical citations to cite sources in the text. However, they include slightly different information.

An **APA in-text citation** includes the author's last name and the publication year. If you're quoting or paraphrasing a specific passage, you also add a page number.

An **MLA in-text citation** includes the author's last name and a page number.

When there are two authors, APA Style separates their names with an ampersand (&), while MLA uses "and." For three or more authors, list the first author followed by "et al." in both styles.

	APA	MLA
1 author	(Taylor, 2018, p. 23)	(Taylor 23)
2 authors	(Taylor & Kotler, 2018, p. 23)	(Taylor and Kotler 23)
3+ authors	(Taylor et al., 2018, p. 23)	(Taylor et al. 23)

Each in-text citation must correspond to a full reference in the list of Works Cited.

Formatting a Works Cited page

- Title the page Works Cited, centered and in plain text (no italics, bold, or underline).
- Alphabetize the entries by the author's last name.
- Use left alignment and double line spacing (no extra space between entries).
- Use a hanging indent on entries that run over onto additional lines.

Elements of a Works Cited

- **Author** - Invert the author's name. In MLA format, if there are two authors, add the second author (not inverted). If there are three or more authors, use "et al." after the first author's name. In APA format, list all authors.

If there is no author, alphabetize the source based on the title of the work. Ignore articles (the, a, and an) for the purposes of alphabetization. If a title begins with a number, alphabetize it as you would if the number was spelled out.

- **Title of Source** - Use quotation marks if the source is part of a larger work (e.g. a chapter of a book, a web page or a journal article). Use italics if the source is a self-contained whole (e.g. an entire book or movie).
- **Title of Container** - The container is the larger work that the source appears in. It is always italicized. For a book chapter, short story or poem, the container is a book. For an article, the container is a journal, newspaper, or magazine. For a web page, the container is a website.
- **Other Contributors** - Add any other relevant contributors, such as editors, translators and directors.
 - » translated by Laura B. Reynolds
 - » edited by Bas Swaen

- **Version/Number** – If there are different editions, issues, or volumes of the container (like magazine and journals), specify the number here.
 - » 2nd ed.
 - » Director’s cut
 - » Vol. 68, no. 15
 - » Season 2, episode 7
- **Publisher** - For books and movies, specify the publisher; for websites, newspapers and journal articles, don’t add a publisher.
- **Publication Date** - Always include the publication year. Include the month (abbreviated) and day if available and relevant.
- **Location** - The location of your source depends on the type of source you are citing. For example: Page range of an article or chapter, DOI of a journal article, or URL of a website.

Examples

- **Book (MLA):** Author’s Last Name, First Name. *Title of Book*. Edition, Publisher, Year of Publication.
 Smith, Thomas, and Barbara Michelle Williams. *The Citation Manual for Students: A Quick Guide*. 2nd ed., Wiley, 2020.
- **Book (APA):** Author’s Last Name, First Name. (Year of Publication). *Title of book* (Edition ed.). Publisher.
 Smith, T., & Williams, B. M. (2020). *The citation manual for students: A quick guide* (2nd ed.). Wiley.
- **Book Chapter (MLA):** Author last name, First name. “Chapter Title.” *Book Title: Subtitle*, edited by Editor name, Publisher, Year, pp. Page range.
 Nussbaum, Martha C. “Legal Reasoning.” *The Cambridge Companion to the Philosophy of Law*, edited by John Tasioulas, Cambridge University Press, 2020, pp. 59-77.
- **Book Chapter (APA):** Author last name, Initials. (Year). Title of chapter. In Editor initials. Last name (Ed. or Eds.), *Book title: Subtitle* (pp. Page range). Publisher.
 Nussbaum, M. C. (2020). Legal reasoning. In Tasioulas, J. (Ed.), *The Cambridge companion to the philosophy of law* (pp. 59-77). Cambridge University Press.
- **Journal Article (MLA):** Author’s Last Name, First Name, and Author’s First Name Last Name. “Title of Article.” *Title of Journal*, vol. Volume, no. Issue, Year of publication, pp. Pages, URL.
 Andreff, Wladimir, and Paul D. Staudohar. “The Evolving European Model of Professional Sports Finance.” *Journal of Sports Economics*, vol. 1, no. 3, 2000, pp. 257-76, www.journal-of-sports-economics.com/european-model-finance.
- **Journal Article (APA):** Author’s Last Name, Initial(s). (Year of publication). Title of article. *Title of Journal*, Volume(Issue), Pages. <https://URL>
 Andreff, W., & Staudohar, P. D. (2000). The evolving European model of professional sports finance. *Journal of Sports Economics*, 1(3), 257-276.

<https://www.journal-of-sports-economics.com/european-model-finance>

- **Video (MLA):** Author's Last Name, First Name. "Title of Video." *Website*, uploaded by Uploader, Day Month Year of publication, URL.
Liu, Jessica. "Develop a Theoretical Framework in Three Steps." *YouTube*, uploaded by Scribbr, 20 Aug. 2020, www.youtube.com/watch?v=4y1BAqOnhMM.
 - **Video (APA):** Last Name, Initial(s). [Channel]. (Year, Month Day of publication). *Title of video* [Video]. *Website*. <https://URL>
Liu, J. [Scribbr]. (2020, August 20). *Develop a theoretical framework in three steps* [Video]. *YouTube*. <https://youtu.be/4y1BAqOnhMM>
 - **Website (MLA):** Author's Last Name, First Name. "Title of Work." *Website*, Day Month Year of publication, URL.
Slat, Boyan. "Whales Likely Impacted by Great Pacific Garbage Patch." *The Ocean Cleanup*, 10 Apr. 2019, www.theoceancleanup.com/updates/whales-likely-impacted-by-great-pacific-garbage-patch.
 - **Website (APA):** Author's Last Name, Initial(s). (Year, Month Day of publication). *Title of work*. *Website*. <https://URL>
Slat, B. (2019, April 10). *Whales likely impacted by Great Pacific garbage patch*. *The Ocean Cleanup*. <https://www.theoceancleanup.com/updates/whales-likely-impacted-by-great-pacific-garbage-patch/>
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SMART Goals (corporatfinanceinstitute.com)

Setting a SMART goal will help you understand exactly what you need to do (and when you need to do it) to achieve your desired outcome.

What Does the SMART Acronym Stand For?

S – Specific

Goals that are specific have a significantly greater chance of being accomplished. To make a goal specific, the five "W" questions must be considered:

- **Who:** Who is involved in this goal?
- **What:** What do I want to accomplish?
- **Where:** Where is this goal to be achieved?
- **When:** When do I want to achieve this goal?
- **Why:** Why do I want to achieve this goal?

M – Measurable

What metrics are you going to use to determine if you meet the goal? This makes a goal more tangible because it provides a way to measure progress. If there are no criteria, you will not be able to determine your progress and whether or not you are on track to reach your goal. To make a goal measurable, ask yourself:

- How many/much?

- How do I know if I have reached my goal?
- What is my indicator of progress?

A - Achievable

A SMART goal must be achievable and attainable. Think about how to accomplish the goal and if you have the tools/skills needed. If you don't currently possess those tools/skills, consider what it would take to attain them. Ask yourself:

- Do I have the resources and capabilities to achieve the goal? If not, what am I missing?
- Have others done it successfully before?

R - Relevant

Relevance refers focusing on something that makes sense with your broader goals (graduation, employment, successful completion of a course). For example, if the goal is to get an internship, it should be in a field that aligns with your ultimate career goals.

- How does the goal align with broader goals?
- Why is the result important?

T - Time-Bound

Anyone can set goals, but if it lacks realistic timing and target dates, chances are you're not going to succeed. A SMART goal must be time-bound in that it has a start and finish date. If your goal is long-term, ask yourself what smaller goals can be accomplished along the way to advance your ultimate goal. Ask yourself:

- Does my goal have a deadline?
- By when do you want to achieve your goal?

Examples

Weak Goal: I'm going to get an internship.

SMART Goal:

- **Specific:** I am going to get a paid summer internship with a financial institution.
- **Measurable:** I need to apply to at least 3 businesses per month from now until May.
- **Achievable:** I have the necessary qualifications and experience for this internship, and there are corporations around me that are accepting summer interns.
- **Relevant:** My major is finance, and I would like to pursue a career in banking.
- **Time-Bound:** It is December now; I need to have the internship secured by May.

Now that you have your SMART goal determined, you can break it into smaller steps that can be achieved as you pursue the larger goal. These smaller goals may include updating your resumé, securing professional references, and researching potential companies.



RESOURCES

SEXUAL ASSAULT

Partners & Resources:

Local

- **Forensic Center of Excellence** is a 24/7 victim service center offering a variety of services, including medical forensic exams, advocacy, adult forensic interviews and legal support. Visit www.forensiccenterofexcellence.com or call 281-306-6893.

National

- **The National Sexual Assault Hotline** can connect victims with a trained staff member from a sexual assault service provider in your area. Call 1-800-656-4673 or visit www.rainn.org.
- **RAINN (Rape, Abuse & Incest National Network)** is the nation's largest anti-sexual violence organization. RAINN created and operates the National Sexual Assault Hotline. Visit www.rainn.org for resources.
- For more information about obtaining a forensic exam and how to support a friend through the process see page 209-210.

SUBSTANCE USE PREVENTION

Fentanyl is a synthetic opioid similar to morphine that is 50 to 100 times more potent. It is highly addictive and can kill you in minutes. Fentanyl is being laced in recreational substances like marijuana, vapes, and pills.



Scan to view our **Drugs in a Snap: Our 5 Step Fentanyl Poisoning Prevention Plan**



Partners & Resources:

Local

- **The Council on Recovery** resources for individuals and families whose lives have been impacted by alcoholism, drug addiction, and co-occurring mental health disorders. www.councilonrecovery.org

National

- **Drug Enforcement Agency** is the federal organization in charge of enforcing the controlled substances laws of the United States. Their online resource page contains drug information, data, statistics, and recovery resources. www.dea.gov/resources
- **National Institute on Drug Abuse** is the primary federal agency for scientific research on drug use and its consequences. www.nida.nih.gov
- **National Harm Reduction Coalition's** mission is to promote the health and dignity of individuals and communities affected by drug use by providing information on fentanyl use and overdose prevention. www.harmreduction.org

SUICIDE PREVENTION / MENTAL HEALTH

If you suspect a friend may be suicidal, ask these three questions:

1. Ask if there is/was a specific incident that led to suicidal thoughts.
2. Ask if they have made a specific plan for suicide.
3. Ask them to describe what they are feeling and then validate those feelings.

Local

- **Crisis Intervention of Houston** provides an emergency hotline, crisis counseling, educational resources, and support groups. www.crisishotline.org or call (832) 416-1200.
- **Menninger Clinic** offers treatment for children and adults, as well as resources for families and clinicians. www.menningerclinic.org
- **Mental Health America of Greater Houston** provides mental health education and advocacy. www.mhatexas.org

National

- **National Suicide Prevention Lifeline** provides 24/7 service to anyone in suicidal crisis or emotional distress. www.suicidepreventionlifeline.org or call 988.
- **Mental Health First Aid** provides general mental health resources, information on various disorders, and access to support groups. www.mentalhealthfirstaid.org/mental-health-resources

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

Partners & Resources:

Local

- **Houston Area Women's Center (HAWC)** has worked to help survivors affected by domestic and sexual violence build lives free from the effects of violence: 713-528-2121 or www.hawc.org
- **Bay Area Turning Point** is a social service agency providing services to individuals impacted by family violence and sexual assault. 24 Hour Hotline Bay Area Turning Point: 281-286-2525 or www.bayareaturningpoint.org
- **Women's Center of Brazoria County** provides services to victims of domestic violence and sexual assault. Reach the 24hr Crisis Hotline at 800-243-5788 or www.womenscenterbc.com
- **Aid to Victims of Domestic Abuse (AVDA)** offers services while promoting violence-free, equitable relationships and creating the social changes necessary to end domestic and dating violence. Call or text to reach the 24-hour crisis hotline on 1-800-355-8547 or www.avdaonline.org/hotline
- **Children's Assessment Center** provides a safe haven to sexually abused children and their families. www.cachouston.org or 713-599-5687

National

- **DAYA** empowers South Asian survivors of domestic and sexual violence through culturally specific services and to educate the community in an effort to end the cycle of abuse. www.dayahouston.org
- **National Domestic Violence Hotline** provides essential tools and support to help survivors of domestic violence so they can live their lives free of abuse. Call 1-800-799-7233, Text start to 88788, or visit www.thehotline.org
- **RAINN (Rape, Abuse & Incest National Network)** is the nation's largest anti-sexual violence organization. RAINN created and operated the National Sexual Assault Hotline. Visit www.rainn.org for resources.
- **National Center on Elder Abuse** provides the latest information regarding research, training, best practices, news and resources on elder abuse,

neglect and exploitation to professionals and the public. Find more information at www.acl.gov

- **National Teen Dating Abuse Hotline** can connect users with an advocate who is trained to offer education, support, and advocacy to those involved in dating abuse relationships as well as concerned friends, siblings, parents, teachers, law enforcement members and service providers. Call 866-331-9474, Text - LOVEIS to 22522 , or visit www.loveisrespect.org for resources today.

ROAD RAGE

Partners & Resources:

Local

- **Houston Police Department Vehicular Crimes Division** responds to and investigates crashes and road rage incidents. www.houstontx.gov/police/divisions/vehicular_crimes
- **Harris County Motorist Assistance Program** is a free program designed to assist stranded motorists on all Harris County area freeways. [www.harriscountysoc.org/ Services/MOTORISTASSISTANCEPROGRAM](http://www.harriscountysoc.org/Services/MOTORISTASSISTANCEPROGRAM)
- **Texas Department of Transportation** provides motorists with vital information and resources to keep them safe on the road. www.txdot.gov/driver/safety/aggressive-drivers.html
- Report aggressive drivers in Houston TX by calling **311**. Include vehicle description, location, license plate number and direction of travel.

National

- **National Safety Council** is one of the leading safety advocates on various safety topics including safe driving. Visit www.nsc.org/road to find articles, statistics, and facts related to safe driving.
- **AAA** has a long history of public service and provides a look into important safety, consumer, automotive and travel issues. Find aggressive driving tips today at www.exchange.aaa.com/safety/driving-advice/aggressive-driving.

SITUATIONAL AWARENESS

Partners & Resources:

Local

- **Krav Haganah** offers situational awareness and self-defense training in the Houston area. www.israeliselfdefense.net

National

- **Pretty Loaded** provides situational awareness and personal safety training for parents, children, teens, and groups. www.prettyloaded.org

LGBTQIA+

Partners & Resources:

Local

- **LGBT Switchboard Houston** is a 24-hour helpline that has been in the community since 1982. It offers resources, counseling services, and information to those in need. Call at 713-529-3211.
- **The Montrose Center** empowers the community - primarily lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and queer (LGBTQ) individuals and their families - to live healthier, more fulfilling lives by providing behavioral health and support services, adult primary care and psychiatry, and free wellness programs that empower individuals to proactively participate in their own care. www.montrosecenter.org or call 713-529-0037.

National

- **National Center for Transgender Equality** advocates to change policies and society to increase understanding and acceptance of transgender people. Visit www.transequality.org for more information or call 202-642-4542.
- **The Trevor Project** is committed to their mission to end suicide among lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer & questioning young people. Utilize them to find a counselor near you, explore their resource center, and stay updated on current research trends at www.thetrevorproject.org.

FINANCIAL CRIMES

Partners & Resources:

Local

- **Houston Police Department Cyber & Financial Crimes Division Unit** investigates criminal activity carried out through the use of technology and modern telecommunication networks. www.houstontx.gov/police/divisions/cyber_&_financial_crimes/index.htm or call (713) 884-3131.
- **Harris County Sheriff's Office Financial Crimes Unit** educates the community on financial crime prevention and investigates financial crimes. Visit www.harriscountyo.org/Services/BURGLARYANDFINANCIALCRIMES for resources today or call 713-221-6000.

National

- **FBI's Internet Crime Complaint Center** is the central tool for reporting complaints on internet related crimes. File a complaint if you have been the victim or on behalf of another person you believe has been victimized. www.ic3.gov
- **United States' Federal Trade Commission** is a convenient way to report fraud, scams, and bad business practices. www.reportfraud.ftc.gov/#/assistant
- **United States Office of the Comptroller of the Currency** helps to regulate and supervise financial institutions operating in the United States. Offers educational resources for financial institutions and consumers. www.occ.gov/topics/supervision-and-examination/bank-operations/financial-crime/index-financial-crime.html

HUMAN TRAFFICKING

Partners & Resources:

Local

- **United Against Human Trafficking** offers education, prevention, direct services, and survivor empowerment. Visit www.uaht.org or call 713-874-0290 for more information.
- **Elijah Rising** is a Houston based non-profit whose mission is to end sex trafficking through prayer, awareness, intervention, and restoration. Find out what they can offer the community and visit their online Sex Trafficking Museum today at www.elijahrising.org
- **City of Houston Mayor's Office of Human Trafficking and Domestic Violence** is an active place that shows how dedicated the City of Houston is to ending Human trafficking and Domestic Violence today. Find response tool kits, immediate help, and schedule more training on the topics at www.humantraffickinghouston.org

National

- **National Human Trafficking Hotline** connects victims and survivors of sex and labor trafficking with services and support to get help and stay safe.

Call the 24-hour Hotline at 888-373-7888 or visit www.humantraffickinghotline.org

- **National Center on Sexual Exploitation (NCOSE)** is a leading organization exposing links between all forms of sexual abuse and exploitation. www.endsexualexploitation.org or call 202-393-7245.
- **Love146** is a worldwide resource that journeys alongside children impacted by trafficking today and helps to prevent the trafficking of children tomorrow. Visit www.love146.org or call 203-298-8788.

ANIMAL CRUELTY

Where to Report:

Local

- **Harris County Animal Cruelty Taskforce:** 832-927-PAWS or www.927paws.org
- **Houston SPCA:** 713-869-7722 or www.houstonspca.org
- **Houston Police Department** (non-emergency dispatch number): 713-884-3131 or www.houstontx.gov/police

National

- Contact your local animal control agency or 911 if you witness animal cruelty
- Contact the **Humane Society of The United States Animal Rescue and Response Team** at www.humanesociety.org/webforms/contact-animal-rescue-team

Partners & Resources:

Local

- **Houston PetSet** is an organization dedicated to ending homelessness of companion animals and alleviate suffering. www.houstonpetset.org.
- **Harris County Constable Precinct 5 Animal Crimes Unit:** www.constablepct5.com/index.php/animal-crimes-unit.
- **BARC Animal Shelter & Adoptions** is the City of Houston's Animal Shelter and Adoption Facility www.houstontx.gov/barc.
- **Harris County Public Health-Animal Shelter** is resourced by Harris County Public Health, offers a safe haven to hundreds of lost, neglected and abandoned animals. www.publichealth.harriscountytexas.gov.
- **Houston Humane Society** is a non-profit Pet Rescue, Pet Adoption, and Animal Shelter servicing the Houston, TX area. www.houstonhumane.org.
- To learn about the Texas civil and laws regarding animal cruelty, please visit **Texas State Law Library's Animal Law page**

National

- **The American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (ASPCA)** is a nonprofit that has been working to prevent animal cruelty since 1866. www.aspca.org.
- **Humane Society of the United States** is a nonprofit that promotes the humane treatment of all animals. www.humanesociety.org.
- **GOPAH** locates resources and find information on how to help your pets or other companion animals in the community. www.gopah.org.
- **American Veterinary Medical Association** are leaders in promoting best practices in Veterinary medicine and advocating for improvement of animal and human health. www.avma.org/resources-tools
- **Center for Disease Control** is a national resource that shares information, safety tips, and research for living a happy and healthy life. www.cdc.gov/healthypets.

BULLYING

Partners & Resources:

National

- **David's Legacy Foundation** is a non-profit organization whose mission is to eliminate cyber and other bullying, of children and teens, through education, legislation, and legal action. www.davidlegacy.org
- **Stopbullying.gov** provides information from various government agencies on what bullying is, what cyberbullying is, who is at risk, and how you can prevent and respond to bullying. www.stopbullying.gov
- **The Center for Safe Schools** is committed to preventing and reducing the incidents of bullying in schools through technical assistance, training, evaluation, and research. www.safeschools.info

BACK-TO-SCHOOL

Partners & Resources:

National

- **Mental Health America** (overall wellness, including prevention services for all), 24-hour Crisis Center – 1-800-273-8255 or text MHA to 741741 or visit www.mhanational.org
- **U.S. Department of Education – Title IX Resources:** Find more information on what Title IX can do to ensure equal access to education for all students and protects them against discrimination on the basis of sex. www.sotes.ed.gov/titleix

FIRE & FIREWORK SAFETY

Partners & Resources:

Local

- Report fire **911** in emergency situations
- **Houston Fire Department:** Reports, Statistics, Safety & Public Education: www.houstontx.gov/fire
- **Harris County Fire Marshal's Office:** Responsible for ensuring buildings in Harris County are maintained to prevent fire and life safety hazards. Find details on the Fire Code, Annual reports, and Safety tips at www.hcfmo.net/Resources

National

- Report fire **911** in emergency situations
- **National Fire Protection Association:** Public Education, Trainings, News & Research: www.nfpa.org or call 1-800-344-3555
- **U.S. Fire Administration:** Prevention, Data, & Trainings: www.usfa.fema.gov

NEED MORE RESOURCES?

We are committed to keeping you safe by providing you with resources and safety tips. Take advantage of monthly safety tips, safety hot topic videos, podcast episodes, and additional safety topics in our Resource Center. Scan the QR code for more information:

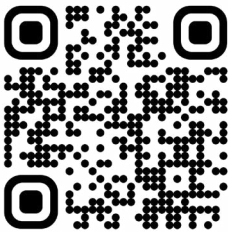


DID YOU KNOW...?

Crime Stoppers of Houston facilitates digital or in-person presentations covering many safety topics for schools and/or groups in your community. If you're interested in having Crime Stoppers facilitate a safety presentation for your group, check out our **Menu of Services** QR code, which is a menu of all presentations, trainings and conversations we offer.

Once you've chosen a presentation, you can submit a **Presentation Request** using the QR code below. It will take you to our online form.

Our team is available to present on more than 20 different topics, including Cyber Safety, Active Shooter, Situational Awareness, Mental Health and more.



Scan to download
our **Menu of Services**



Scan to **submit a
Presentation Request**

SEXUAL ASSAULT FORENSIC EXAM

A sexual assault medical forensic exam is an empowering way for survivors to seek justice and make sure their body is safe. This exam is performed by specially trained medical professionals to treat you for trauma and possible infections as well as collect evidence, should you choose to report your assault.

What to Expect:

- Immediate medical care will be provided.
- A detailed medical history will be taken during a talk with your nurse.
- Forensic evidence will be collected.

How To Prepare:

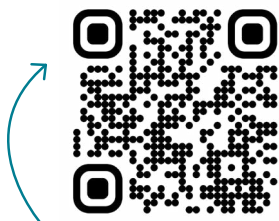
- Call for an exam as soon as you can after the assault.
- Avoid bathing/showering, combing your hair, or using the restroom (to the extent possible).
- Avoid changing your clothes or place the clothes you were wearing in a paper bag.

Your Rights:

- You may obtain this FREE exam and have evidence collected while you consider whether you want to report the assault. You do not need to call the police to have the exam.
- If you experience pain during the exam, you should tell your nurse who is there to help.
- Your health matters. An exam can help you make sure your body is safe, get the treatment you deserve, and be connected to other supportive services.

SUPPORTING SURVIVORS

Every 68 seconds, an American is sexually assaulted and almost 3 million women in the U.S. experienced rape-related pregnancy during their lifetime.



Scan to download our
**College Safety
Awareness Brochure**

Best Practices to Support Survivors That Confide In You:

- If someone reaches out to talk to you about their abuse, your job is to be as supportive and non-judgmental as possible while honoring your own boundaries. Support can mean providing resources, helping survivors connect to services, and listening.

Use simple and powerful statements of support:

- I believe you.
- It's not your fault.
- You are not alone.
- I care about you and am here to listen or help in any way I can.
- You didn't deserve this.
- I'm glad that you are sharing this with me, it takes a lot of courage.

Be a Safe Person for Survivors to Share Their Story With:

- Leave out "why" questions and don't try to investigate.
- Remind the survivor, more than once, that they are not to blame.
- Do not push the survivor to take actions or share information if they are not ready.
- Check in periodically. The event may have happened a long time ago, but that doesn't mean the pain is gone.
- Help the survivor identify people and organizations they can trust.
- Know your resources and honor your boundaries. If you feel overwhelmed, communicate with the survivor, and help them locate a professional for help.





**The Safe Community Institute is a
division of Crime Stoppers of Houston.**



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