



MINDSET Run | Hide | Fight

It's not run, then hide, then fight. Choose the appropriate action based on the circumstances at hand and be ready to adjust if circumstances change.



RUN: Evacuate if possible

- Have your escape route in mind
- Evacuate, even if others do not follow, but help others if you can
- Leave your belongings behind
- Keep your hands open and visible
- Follow the instructions of any police officers
- Call 911 when you are safe



HIDE: Find a place to hide in silence

- If you cannot evacuate, hide as best as you can
- Find a place with cover to protect you from shots fired in your direction
- Try not to trap yourself or limit your ability to run if the opportunity arises
- Lock the door and barricade any entrance as much as possible
- Silence your cell phone and turn off any source of noise
- If possible, dial 911 and leave the line open



FIGHT: As a last resort, take action

- Attempt to disrupt, distract, or incapacitate the attacker
- Use improvised weapons - spray a fire extinguisher, throw hot coffee, stab with scissors
- Yelling can be a distraction
- Be aggressive and commit to your action

Continue to assess the situation and be prepared to change your tactic. If you run away from an active shooter only to discover that there is a second shooter, you may have to hide or fight. If you have hidden and the shooter passes you by, you may have the opportunity to run. Be prepared to adapt and continue to consider possible courses of action depending on what happens next.

When Law Enforcement Arrives

Their first priority is to stop the active shooter or other threat as quickly as possible. Remember, these officers are also at a heightened stress level and will not necessarily know who is a bad actor vs an innocent bystander.

- Keep your hands empty and raised, with your fingers spread
- Avoid making quick movements toward the officers
- Follow their instructions without stopping to ask for help or information

