

What To Do If Your Laptop Gets Stolen

By Gary Hendricks

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Table Of Contents

Introduction.....	4
1. Confidential Data	4
2. Financial Information.....	4
3. Your Own Backup Data.....	4
4. Check For Laptop Insurance	4
5. Delays Due To The Loss.....	4
6. Inform The Laptop Manufacturer	5
Conclusion	5

Introduction

If you just got your laptop stolen, you're not alone. It is estimated that a laptop is stolen every 53 seconds and that more than 12,000 laptops disappear each week from U.S. airports alone.

If you have lost your laptop to a thief, do not despair yet. I know it is hard not to think about the kids' photos, the business proposal, etc. which are still stuck in that laptop. There are some things you need to do to maximize your chances of getting it back.

1. Confidential Data

The first thing to do is think about any confidential data left in your laptop. If there is confidential data (e.g. customer's data) – you need to review those confidentiality agreements and take immediate action.

2. Financial Information

Any financial information in the laptop needs to be locked down immediately. If there is any financial information from you or your customers or vendors, you need to inform the relevant parties immediately. We're talking about accessed? Social Security numbers, EIN numbers and banking information.

It is imperative that you **immediately** inform those customers, vendors and financial institutions that a breach of confidential information might have occurred Explain to them that your laptop got stolen and at what time, etc.

3. Your Own Backup Data

Think about when you last backed up the laptop data. You need to know what information you need to restore from your backups so you still having working copies of documents. Get to a new computer as soon as possible and review your backup data. To restore the data, you should consult your backup software manual or visit the software vendor's website.

4. Check For Laptop Insurance

Some companies provide laptop insurance. Check with your employer if business insurance covers lost or stolen computers outside of your work premises. You should also check your insurance policy or contact your insurance broker and explain what happened.

5. Delays Due To The Loss

Immediately think of projects and activities will be delayed due to the loss. You then need to plan for a "worse case scenario" and inform team members, customers and

vendors of timeline implications.

6. Inform The Laptop Manufacturer

If your laptop gets stolen, inform your laptop manufacturer. Many manufacturers will make a record of your report. If someone subsequently calls or sends the laptop in for service, the manufacturer can notify you and / or the police. You might ask, how does the manufacturer know that a laptop brought in is owned by you? Well – if you registered your product, the manufacturer should be able to tie the serial number printed on the laptop to your name. So it's a good idea to get your laptop registered when you buy it.

Conclusion

I hope this report has shown you some tips for dealing with laptop theft. It is definitely unfortunate that the laptop is lost, but there is no use in fretting over it. What's important is to move on and find the best way to continue to be productive.

By the way, if you have any ideas or suggestions on how to improve this report, do feel free to drop me a note at: <http://www.best-laptop-guide.com/about-me.html>.

Gary Hendricks runs a website about laptops. To learn more about laptops, laptop accessories and access a wide variety of how-to articles, be sure to visit his website at <http://www.best-laptop-guide.com>.
