Pepper Spray: Carry It Right, Use It Right

Safecore Defense — PROTECT YOURSELF. STAY SAFE.

Pepper spray is small, simple, and effective — but only if you can reach it fast and you know how to use it. This guide covers carrying, practicing, using, and what to do afterward.

Check your local laws first. Pepper spray rules vary by state and city. Some places limit the size you can carry, some require you to be 18 or older, and a few restrict it more. Check the rules where you live and anywhere you travel before you carry it.

How to Carry It

- **On your person, not in your bag.** A spray buried in a purse or backpack is useless in an emergency. Carry it in your hand when walking alone at night, or clipped where you can grab it in one second.
- **Use the clip or keychain.** Most sprays come with a clip or key ring. Attach it to your keys, your belt loop, or the outside of a pocket — somewhere your hand finds it without looking.
- **Same place every time.** Muscle memory matters. If it is always in your right jacket pocket, your hand will go there without thinking.
- **Keep it upright.** Most sprays work best held upright. A holster or clip that keeps it upright is worth having.
- **Check the expiration date.** Pepper spray loses strength over time. Check the date every few months and replace it when it expires.

How to Practice Safely

- **Buy a practice canister.** Inert practice sprays contain water, not pepper. They let you practice your draw, your aim, and your spray pattern without any risk.
- **Practice the draw.** Ten times a day for a week: hand to spray, thumb on the safety, point. You are building a reflex, not just knowledge.
- **Learn the safety.** Know exactly how your safety tab or flip-top works. Some twist, some slide, some flip. Practice until you can release it without looking.
- **Practice your stance.** Feet apart, one foot slightly back, spray arm extended, other hand up near your face. Short bursts, not one long spray.
- **Know the range.** Most sprays reach 8 to 12 feet. Check your product's range and practice at that distance so you know what it looks like.

If You Have to Use It

1. **Create distance first.** If you can walk or run away, do that. Spray is for when you cannot get away.

2. **Warn if you can.** A loud "Back off!" or "Stay away!" can stop a situation before it starts, and it tells people nearby that you need help.
3. **Aim for the face.** Eyes, nose, mouth. Short bursts of one to two seconds. Do not empty the whole can at once — save some in case you need a second burst.
4. **Move immediately.** Do not stand and watch. As soon as you spray, move away toward people, lights, or a safe building.
5. **Do not touch your own face.** If spray blows back on you, blink a lot, breathe fresh air, and do not rub your eyes.

What to Do After Using It

- **Get somewhere safe.** People, lights, an open store — go there first.
- **Call 911.** Report what happened, where, and what the person looked like. You used a legal self-defense tool. Say so clearly.
- **Rinse if exposed.** If you got spray on yourself, flush your eyes with cool water for 15 minutes and wash skin with soap and water. Do not use creams or oils on the area.
- **Replace your spray.** Even a partly used canister may not have enough left for a second emergency. Replace it right away.
- **Write down what happened.** Date, time, place, what was said, what the person looked like. Memory fades fast. Write it down the same day.

Common Mistakes to Avoid

- **Carrying it where you cannot reach it.** Bottom of a bag is the same as not carrying it.
- **Never practicing.** The first time you use it should not be the first time you hold it.
- **Spraying into the wind.** Wind blows spray back at you. If the wind is in your face, move so it is at your back, or aim lower and closer.
- **Holding it upside down.** Most sprays lose pressure or spray weakly when inverted. Keep it upright.
- **Thinking it solves everything.** Pepper spray buys you seconds to escape. Your legs and your voice are still your best tools.

GET THE GEAR

Safecore Defense carries pepper spray in several sizes — keychain, pocket, and larger canisters — plus practice sprays so you can train safely. All backed by our **lifetime warranty on all products**.

Shop now at www.safecoredefense.com — PROTECT YOURSELF. STAY SAFE.