



Dao of Doug series - how to ride

**Lost and Found-
make sure you're
secure and safe**

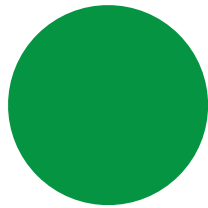


- + Know how many minutes to next coach arrival, notice headway blips
- + Backtrack to an earlier stop if there's time
- + Check your pockets and zippers—especially the ones facing away from you
- + Immediately take your backpack off if you see the bus is crowded—hold on to it by your feet
- + Make sure pockets on the back of your bag or backpack are closed

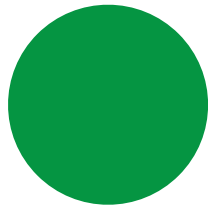
Don't be passed-up

Keep your stuff safe

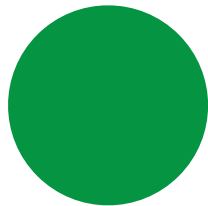
Know the lost and found timeframe



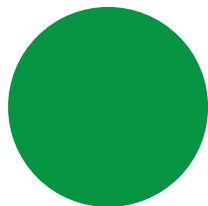
If a bus is packed-use your next bus app to see when the follower will arrive —empty and with plenty of room to sit.



Let the driver know when you're getting off, "Operator, I need McAllister, would you let me know?"



Don't ever stand or sit by the back doors entranced by the call or blog—a pickpocket will knock you and run.



I've done hours of research to find products which keep your stuff hidden or protected to reduce being lost.



One of the regularly occurring delays are those boarding passengers who cannot locate their pass or change. Their fumble to locate the pass takes many forms: Unable to pull the pass out of a pocket from behind a jacket: The pass is in a clip or wallet that is too fat for the pocket opening: The pass around around their neck on a lanyard is tucked tightly behind a jacket that has tough snaps or zippers.

Some of these flash presentations are hilarious—or frustrating, such as not knowing where the transfer is. True, the transfer paper is extremely thin, and very hard to find when you don't remember where you put it. But oh, the Drama: Not having the fare counted, or not knowing the fare: Not having a clipper card with money on it: Having more than one clipper card in the wallet and triggering the shutdown alarm: Having a bank card or other magnetic strip rendering the clipper card inactive: Displaying an invalid fare: Dropping money or belongings on the floor, or down the steps, or out the door! Dropping tobacco leaves or clothing threads or hair in the coin drop: Placing folded bills in the coin drop—sliding dimes into the bill meter—***What were you doing while you were waiting for the bus to come?***

—having torn, folded, or worn bills that are not accepted by the bill meter; blocking the passengers behind them that are ready and have the fare; blocking others trying to ask a question about where I go; running-in to someone trying to tag in behind them—stopping at the door and blocking by asking questions about where I go or what I do. Having their bag or purse slide down their arm and knock the money out of their hand before finishing paying



Correct placement of interior convex mirrors is key for camera capture. Thieves knock this mirror by the back door out of alignment—so they won't be seen.

the fare; holding too many objects such as a cane, a shopping bag and a purse while trying to use one hand to pay the fare; walking by saying nothing, showing nothing—and all of these above examples can occur at just one stop, such as 16th and Mission!

The inability to see or read the head sign of a bus, or to know where to stand based upon stalled traffic or double parked vehicles notwithstanding, one detail that usually does not escape notice in our fair

city is when our air temperature is *not* fair. The afternoon fog moves in, the temperature drops and those who do not live here become obvious to even the denizens of sidewalk cracks, the suits leaving a tower of high finance, and unfortunately, the thieves and pickpockets looking for a quick take.

As I drive my bus past the humanity walking by, I point out to visitors on board my bus how we spot tourists instantly. They are curious as to how I know they are not residents of our city when I pick them up. True, the ability to read others becomes fine tuned within our senses as the years add up behind the wheel, but it can also be much simpler. We key in on what you are wearing.

If an entire family is wearing brand new hoodies and sweat tops with Alcatraz images, it is obvious the ferry ride over to the famous prison island caught them unawares of how cold our sea breeze hits the skin. Especially true when traveling the rails of a boat over the bay or waiting for a bus on a hill.

The current gold rush becomes apparent. The gold is not in the hills at Sutter's Mill. The gold is found by selling hoodies and sweat shirts to tourists at Fisherman's Wharf; or out of a blanket atop Twin Peaks. It can even be mined from a handbag held side saddle with a wide open top or side pocket.

Not limited to the wharf, other places, such as tour bus vista stops, also become a bazaar for clothing sales. In order to bypass permits, vendors have all the shirts and gear laying on large blankets and sheets. If the spotter sees police cars coming up the hill on the road below, they quickly wrap the garments in the blanket and throw them over the rail. The clothing becomes invisible to the police in the patrol car when it passes by the vista point area.

Most crime occurs because the police never exit their vehicle. Beat patrols are always requested, but hard to fill. I argue with others, it is not more cops we need, but pavement pounders on the beat. We are not a car culture city. Our streets have not changed when it comes to foot traffic. In fact, more people are walking than ever before. This is one reason we become slender after living here for a few years.



It's cool to leave your Heart in San Francisco—but not your new iPhone ! Check out stuff to have like a regular rider—don't waste time with a police report or cancelling all your cards!

July is the number one month for visitors: Central Valley residents beating the heat, Europeans using their generous vacation time, and the occasional and rare Midwesterner's family visiting a young family member just moved into the city. Its fun to watch a new city resident train their family on how to pay the fare and ride the bus. I really have to watch my self to make sure I don't go overboard on being a driver guide instead of a city transit operator, but it makes for a fun ride.

Great places for selfies and shots with friends are the Hearts of San Francisco on the corners of Union

Square. Alamo Square by the Painted Ladies has landscaping of new trees and freshly sodded green grass. New plumbing for sprinklers and a bathroom have also been upgraded. The Victorian beauties abound around the 4 block square, and look great as a backdrop for a picture.