

## SEXWORK – as safe as possible

When you offer sex services, **YOU** decide

*where you work*  
*how often you work*  
*how long you work*  
*what you offer*

These tips can help you with your work:

### General:

- Always keep your documents with you
- Don't sign anything you don't understand
- Reputable operators are respectful towards sex workers. It is not okay to assault or insult you - neither verbally nor physically. It is not okay for operators to "test" new sex workers - whether paid or not
- Have a tenancy agreement or contract of use, which regulates the rights and obligations of both parties, presented and signed
- If a rent has been agreed for a room, this amount should also include all additional services such as laundry and cleaning fees
- Working legally means that no one can easily blackmail you

### Work with customers:

- Don't let anyone persuade you to do something you do not want to do
- It is good to have a fixed price list with reasonable prices
- Protect yourself from infection through safer sex
- Do not let anyone persuade you to have sex without a condom
- Listen to your instincts! Do not take a customer you do not feel comfortable with
- Take a close look at the customer and pay attention to hygiene (e.g. showering together)
- Pay attention to your colleagues, it gives you a good sense of security and better cooperation
- Do not talk to dissatisfied customers alone, rather call in a colleague for a joint discussion
- If you become insecure or scared, stay as calm as possible and think about how you can get out of the situation

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- Be careful if you are in withdrawal (alcohol, drugs, etc.) or particularly drunk; you will appear more helpless to the customer and they could gain more power over you
- Do not wear chains, scarves and similar items that could be used to choke you
- Do not take your eyes off the customer, especially their hands
- Avoid positions that are unfavourable for you: e.g. blowing between the customer's knees
- Be careful with drunk, aggressive or distraught customers
- Do not leave your money and valuables (mobile phones, ID cards, bags) or other personal belongings lying around in the general area or in the room
- If you suspect an infection with a sexually transmitted disease, have yourself and your partner examined by a doctor straight away
- A self-defence course can help you to feel safe and be able to defend yourself in unpleasant situations

**Escort:**

- If you offer escort services, tell somebody (e.g. your colleagues\*) where you are going (address)
- Make sure that your mobile phone is easily accessible and always charged
- If the client does not want to honour the negotiated conditions, cancel the meeting and leave the location

**If a customer forces you to do something that has not been agreed and that you do not want to do, say no clearly. If the customer does not stop, it is rape and you should report it to the police. The counselling centres can help you with this.**

For more information, the counsellors of SXA-Info are available in German and in the following languages:


**Romanian, Hungarian**  
**0650/59 07 355**

**Slovakian, Czech**  
**0681/10 30 58 68**

**English, Spanish**  
**0699/ 122 623 19**

We offer free, anonymous and confidential counselling

**SXA Info wird finanziert von:**

 Bundeskanzleramt  
Bundesministerin für  
Frauen, Familie, Integration

 **Das Land**  
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**GRAZ**