1. A radiation threat or "Dirty Bomb" is the use of common explosives to spread radioactive materials.

2. It is not a nuclear blast. The force of the explosion and radioactive contamination will be more localized. In order to limit the amount of radiation you are exposed to, think about shielding, distance and time.

3. Shielding: If you have a thick shield between yourself and the radioactive materials more of the radiation will be absorbed by the thick shield, and you will be exposed to less.

4. Distance: The farther away you are from the radiation the lower your exposure.

5. Time: Minimizing time spent exposed will also reduce your risk.

6. Local authorities may not be able to immediately provide information on what is happening and what you should do. However, you should watch TV, listen to the radio, or check the Internet often for official news and information as it becomes available.