

HOME BURGLARY PREVENTION TIPS

LOCK UP

Lock all outside doors, windows, garages, sheds and/or pet doors, even if you will only be gone for a short time. Install deadbolts on all outside doors. Install specialty locks for sliding glass doors and/or place wooden dowels in window tracks for added security.

MAKE THE HOUSE LOOK OCCUPIED

Leave lights and a television or radio on if possible. If you are away for an extended time, make arrangements to have mail, packages and newspapers collected, your lawn cared for and notify the police department for extra patrols.

LIGHTING

Keep your house well-lit, particularly around entrances. Add extra lighting with motion detectors around entrances and dark corners of your home.

SECURITY SYSTEM

If possible, consider getting a security system. There are many varieties currently on the market. If you have a system in place, always keep it activated.

VIDEO DOORBELLS

If you have a video doorbell, be sure to respond when someone comes to your door, whether or not you're home. Burglars often check to see if anyone is home before breaking in.

INVENTORY

Photograph your valuables in their locations around your home and make a list of the make, model and serial numbers. Photograph important documents and keep them in a safe deposit box or with a relative.

IF YOU SUSPECT AN INTRUDER IS IN YOUR HOME, DO NOT ENTER.

CALL 911 IMMEDIATELY!

ADDITIONAL TIPS

Get to know your neighbors. Do not keep spare keys outside. Keep safes bolted down. Shred documents before throwing them out and breakdown packaging of newly purchased valuables before disposing of them.



Home Security Checklist

Use this as a guide as you check your home for safety measures. Boxes marked "no" indicate areas where you could take action to improve your home's security. These are just some of the steps you can take to decrease the likelihood that you or your home is targeted.

Exterior Doors

- | | Yes | No |
|---|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| All doors are locked at night and every time we leave the house – even if it's just for a few minutes. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Doors are solid hardwood or metal-clad. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Doors feature wide-angle peepholes at heights everyone can use. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| If there are glass panels in or near our doors, they are reinforced in some way so that they cannot be shattered. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| All entryways have a working, keyed entry lock and sturdy deadbolt lock installed into the frame of the door. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Spare keys are kept with a trusted neighbor, not under a doormat or planter, on a ledge, or in a mailbox | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

Garage and Sliding Door Security

- | | Yes | No |
|---|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| The door leading from the attached garage to the house is solid wood or metal-clad and protected with a quality keyed door lock and deadbolt. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| The overhead garage door has a lock so that we do not rely solely on the automatic door opener to provide security. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| All garage doors are locked when leaving the house. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| The sliding glass door has strong working key locks. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| A dowel or a pin to secure a glass door has been installed to prevent the door from being shoved aside or lifted off the track. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| The sliding door is locked every night and each time we leave the house. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

Protecting Windows

- | | Yes | No |
|---|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| Every window in the house has a working key lock or is securely pinned. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Windows are always locked even when they opened a few inches for ventilation. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

Outdoor Security

- | | Yes | No |
|---|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| Shrubs and bushes are trimmed so there is no place for someone to hide. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

There are no dark areas around our house, garage, or yard at night that would hide prowlers.

Floodlights are used appropriately to ensure effective illumination.

Outdoor lights are on in the evening – whether someone is at home or not, or a Photocell or motion-sensitive lighting system has been installed.

Our house number is clearly displayed so police and other emergency vehicles can find the house quickly.

Security When Away From Home

Yes No

At least two light timers have been set to turn the lights on and off in a logical sequence when we are away for an extended time period.

The motion detector or other alarm system (if we have one) has been activated when we leave home.

Mail and newspaper deliveries have been stopped or arrangements for a neighbor/friend to pick them up have been made when we go away from home for a period of time.

A neighbor has been asked to tend the yard and watch our home when we are away.

Outdoor Valuables and Personal Property

Yes No

Gate latches, garage doors, and shed doors are locked with high-security, laminated padlocks.

Gate latches, garage doors, and shed doors are locked after every use.

Grills, lawn mowers, and other valuables are stored in a locked garage or shed, or if left out in the open, are hidden from view with a tarp and securely locked to a stationary point.

Every bicycle is secured with a U-bar lock or quality padlock and chain.

Bikes are always locked, even if we leave them for just a minute.

Firearms are stored unloaded and locked in storage boxes and secured with trigger guard locks.

Valuable items, such as television, stereos, and computers have been inscribed with the identifying number approved by local police.

Our home inventory is up-to-date and includes pictures. A complete inventory is kept somewhere out of the house.