

BURGLARY PREVENTION RESIDENTIAL AND BUSINESS

Suggestions on how to discourage/prevent burglary



RESIDENTIAL

1. Be sure your house numbers are readable from the street so police, fire, or Medical personnel can more easily find your home in an emergency.
2. Install good exterior lighting (under eaves so burglars will have a hard time Reaching the bulb, or cover with chicken wire to discourage tampering).
3. Leave outside lights on during the night.
4. Trim back shrubs around doors and windows of your home. Do not give burglars sheltered areas in which to hide as they work.
5. Carefully store ladders, padlocking them to fixed objects or keep inside locked garage.
6. Frost or cover garage windows and keep doors closed so non one can see when your car is gone.
7. Shut and lock your garage door when you are not inside.
8. Do not hide spare house keys (or car keys) outside your house or car. Instead, keep them with a trusted neighbor or friend.
9. Leave only your ignition key with an attendant in a pay parking lot.
10. Lock all doors and windows, even if you are only going to be gone for a short time.
11. Have locks changed or re-keyed when you move into a new house or apartment.
12. Install deadbolt door locks on exterior home doors and interior doors between the garage and house. Use safety double-cylinder deadbolt locks on exterior doors where glass panels are present within 40 inches of the lock.
13. Install track-type locks, removable drop bars (such as a "Charlie Bar"), or pinning devices on sliding glass doors.
14. Consider installing a UL approved alarm system in your home.
15. Consider keeping valuables in a safe deposit box.
16. Be suspicious of strangers and unfamiliar vehicles in your neighborhood. Note license plate information. Don't be afraid or embarrassed to call 911.
17. Never allow strangers to enter your home. Verify unexpected workers via their identification cards and by telephoning the organization or business they represent.
18. Always ask to see door-to-door vendor's city business license.
19. Do not leave notes for workers, family, or friends on your door while away from the house.
20. Keep a radio or TV (loud enough to be heard outside the front door) and various indoor lights on (some can be on timers) while away from home.
21. While away set your telephone ringer on "low" so unanswered ringing cannot be heard outside the home.
22. While away, arrange window shades and blinds in various open and shut positions to make it appear that you are home.

23. Arrange for maintenance of your yard while you are away so your residence has a "lived in" look.
24. Have merchandise delivered to a trusted neighbor in your absence.
25. Consider employing a house sitter while away for an extended period.



BUSINESS

1. Keep a record of all keys issued. Master keys and extra duplicates should be locked away for safekeeping. When a particular key is needed, everyone must sign for its use.
2. Have all keys stamped with the words "DO NOT DUPLICATE".
3. Familiarize your employees with your security system and its procedures. Efficient, alert, well informed and understanding employees are necessary to help you to protect your business.
4. Post warning signs encouraging customers and employees to always lock their unattended vehicles and to lock valuables in trunk. Valuables left in plain sight attract thieves.
5. Deny burglars access to your roof by securing ladders, pallets, boxes, and crates away from your building.
6. Property belonging to your business that must be stored outside your main building should be protected from view and theft by placing property in a locked storage shed.
7. Deny burglars a place to hide by keeping grass and shrubs trimmed and debris cleared away from your property.
8. Alarms are an excellent deterrent to would be burglars. Place stickers on doors and windows advising all who enter that the building is alarmed.

For further crime prevention information contact the National Crime Prevention Council www.ncpc.org/