

Summary of Safety Checklist handout (from Police)

Door and Entry Areas

Do not hide a key anywhere outside your home.

Make sure you know everyone who currently has a key to your house, and that no keys are still in the possession of previous owners or friends.

Make sure entryways are not obscured by bushes or shrubbery.

Trim shrubbery on property to eliminate hiding places.

Install lights around the perimeter of your house.

Make sure that all entrances have lights with a minimum 60 watt bulb.

Exterior doors should be solid core construction.

Entry doors should have a 190 degree wide angle viewer.

Exterior doors should have cylinder-type dead bolt locks with at least a one-inch throw and beveled cylinder guard.

Doors without cylinder locks should have a heavy bolt or some similarly secure device that can be operated only from the inside.

All of your doors (basement, porch, French or balcony) should be able to be securely locked.

Basement doors should have locks that allow you to isolate that part of the house.

All locks should be in good repair.

Door strike plates (the jamb fastening that receives the bolt in the locking position) should be installed with 3-inch screws.

All out-swinging doors should have locking pins or non-removable hinges with pins.

Sliding doors should have an auxiliary lock that locks both door panels together. Alternatively, you should have a lock that locks the active side to the frame.

The garage door should be secured with a padlock, hasp, or other good auxiliary lock.

Lock your garage door at night.

Lock your garage door when away from home.

Lock your garage door when heading into the house.

Lock your car and take the keys out even when it's parked in your garage or driveway.

Windows

All windows should be equipped with auxiliary locks or pinned.

Louvered windows should be replaced or secured.

Window locks should be properly and securely mounted.

Keep windows locked when they're shut.

Garage windows should have good, secure locks.

Garage windows should be covered with curtains or blinds.

Be as careful with basement and second floor windows as you are with first floor ones.

When You're on a Trip

Arrange for neighbors or friends to pick up newspapers, mail, packages, and any other deliveries.

Notify a neighbor.

Notify your local police department. (Some jurisdictions provide vacation checks of homes).

Arrange to keep your lawn maintained.

Use timing devices to turn your lamps, radios, or televisions on and off.

Arrange to have a neighbor put out-- and take in-- your garbage cans.

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