

# Burglary Prevention Checklist



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**Print this checklist and use it to help prevent burglaries.**

- Secure any sliding doors. Put a steel rod in the door channel. Install 2 or 3 screws in the overhead track to reduce the chance of the door being lifted out of the track.
- Look into installing a burglar alarm system. Some alarms even link to a law enforcement agency.
- Have a wide-angle door viewer (peephole) install in your front door so you can see who is at the door.
- Use an engraving pen to write your current driver's license number on your property. Burglars don't want marked merchandise.
- Keep bushes and trees near your house well trimmed. Thick, tall shrubbery provides cover for a burglar and lets him work undetected.
- Keep the area around your house well lit. This will discourage burglars.
- Organize a Neighborhood Watch program. Neighbors working together make one of the best crime-fighting teams around.
- Make sure that the locks on your doors and windows are strong and secure and then use them.
- Display "Beware" signs. If you have a dog or an alarm system, put up signs that say you do. They deter thieves.
- Make a home inventory list, complete with photos or video. Store this list away from your home.
- Never leave a house key in an obvious place such as a mailbox or under a doormat.
- Be careful with your keys. Put your house and car keys on separate key rings, and don't put identification tags on keys.
- Have a security plan for when you are on vacation. Ask a trusted neighbor to pick up mail, etc.
- Be wary of wrong numbers and teach children what to say to strangers on the phone.
- Know the steps to take if your home is robbed.

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