

Home Security Checklist

To be used as a guide as you check your home for safety measures.

(See page 2 for enhanced security level suggestions)

Yes	No	Doors
		Are all door locks in good working order?
		Do exterior doors have a wide-angle peephole viewer?
		Do you keep your garage door locked?
		Are all exterior doors of solid core or metal construction?
		Are all doorframes of sturdy construction?
		Do all exterior doors have deadbolt locks, bolts, or other secure device?
		Are all door strike plates and hinges installed with three-inch screws anchored into studs?
		Do sliding doors or windows have a security stop, wooden dowel in the track, or charley bar?
Yes	No	Windows
		Are all window locks working properly?
		Do you have locks that allow you to secure a window that is partially open?
		Do you keep windows locked or pinned whenever you shut them?
		Do you make sure second floor windows are as secure as first floor?
		Are garage window locks secured?
		Do you have curtains or covers on garage windows?
Yes	No	Home Exterior
		Are motion detector lights installed around the outside of your house?
		Do exterior lights have bright bulbs?
		Are trees, shrubs and bushes trimmed so entry areas are not obstructed and don't allow hiding places?
		Is your house number clearly visible from the street day or night?
		Are ladders securely put away to prevent second floor access?
Yes	No	Your Safety Habits
		Do you attempt to make your home appear occupied when you go out?
		Do you keep a list of your valuable property, including serial numbers?
		Do you engrave or mark your valuable property with a personal identifier (e.g. - driver's license #)?
		Do you have photos and/or videotapes of your home and property?
		Do you keep excess cash and valuables in a bank?
		Do you keep checkbooks in a secure location?
		Do you keep documents with identity information in a hidden and/or secure location?
		Does your family know what to do in the event of a break-in, or if they come home and find a burglar?
		Do your children know how to properly use 9-1-1?
		Do you keep your doors locked at all times?
		Do you always lock your car and take the key out, even in the driveway?
		Do you securely store any/all firearms in the home?
		Do you keep your door closed when talking to strangers?
		If a trusted neighbor keeps a key, is it unmarked so others cannot relate it to your house?
Yes	No	Vacations
		Do you have mail and newspapers stopped or picked up by a friend or neighbor while you are gone?
		Do you make arrangements to have your lawn mowed / snow shoveled?
		Do you notify a neighbor on how to reach you or a responsible person in an emergency?
		Do you put lamps on timers?
		Do you resist posting vacation plans on social media?
		Do you Complete a vacation notification at the Police Station?

Home Security Checklist II

Increased Level of Security

*The below measures may be considered where there is a desire to increase to home security a greater level. This approach is to **make your home security more like an onion than an egg**. One layer of security is an inconvenience to a home burglar; however, incorporating multiple layers of security into one's home greatly increases the level of security. Not only will a multi-layered approach slow down or deter a burglar, but it will also give you and/or your neighbors more time to react in an appropriate manner.*

- Monitored home security alarm system.
- Video monitoring system, viewable by occupants.
- Interior motion detectors.
- Security pins in all windows.
- Glass block windows on all basement windows.
- Any windows or glass within 40 inches of entrance lock should be of shatter resistant material or coating.
- Door and window locks should not be reachable through mail slots, delivery port, pet entrance, etc.
- All doors to living quarters from garage and basement should be metal or solid wood.
- Adequate lock installed on the living quarters side of the basement door.
- Slide bolt on interior side of overhead garage door or keyed security lock accessible from the outside (most overhead door systems are easily defeated).
- Install a garage door alarm, that signals occupants when the garage door is opened.
- Close window drapes and blinds in areas where you want to prevent others from seeing your valuables.
- Use an interior manual security bar on entrance doors at night, especially in apartments where true key security is often a concern.
- Keep firearms in a heavy-duty safe (important documents can be stored here also).
- Plant dense, thorny vegetation below windows.
- Get a dog that has been properly trained, particularly as an early warning system.
- Get to know your neighbors and watch out for each other. Consider joining community based social network, such as nextdoor.com, to facilitate sharing of information and concerns with neighbors.
- Self-exam: walk around your home as if you were the burglar and consider how you might get in and how much effort and noise would be involved, then make changes as appropriate.