



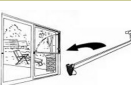




HOME SECURITY TIPS



Most residential burglaries occur during the day, when most people are at work. If a burglar knocks on the front door and no one answers, he checks the back door and looks for open windows. If he decides that no one is home then he assesses which way is easiest to get in. *You can prevent that.*

This checklist is in priority order and helps indicate the security of your home. Every 'no' checked shows a weak point that may help a burglar gain access. **To improve your security, attempt to eliminate the boxes checked 'no.'** Using these guidelines will not make your home burglar proof, but it will improve your protection.

 SIDE OR REAR ENTRANCE (Burglars typically enter through side or rear doors)	YES	NO
1. Is the door itself made of metal or solid wood construction?		
2. Is the door-frame strong enough and tight enough to prevent entry?		
3. Are door hinges on the inside?		
4. There are no windows in the door, and other windows are more than 40 inches from door locks.		
5. Is the door secured by a deadbolt lock that is at least 1-inch long?		
 6. Is the strike plate adequate and properly installed with 3-inch screws?		
7. The locking mechanism cannot be reached from a mail slot or pet entrance.		
8. The doorway is visible from the street and/or neighbor's view.		
9. Does the doorway have a screen or storm door with an adequate lock?		
10. If the door is sliding glass door, is the sliding panel secured from being lifted out of the track?		
11. Is a "charley-bar" or key-operated lock used on the sliding glass door?		
		
12. Is the entrance lighted with at least a 40-watt light?		
ENTRANCES FROM GARAGE AND BASEMENT		
13. Are all entrances to the living quarters from garage or basement metal or solid wood construction?		
14. Does the door from the garage to the living quarters have locks adequate for an exterior entrance?		
15. Does the door from the basement have an adequate lock operated from the living quarters?		
 GROUND FLOOR WINDOWS (Burglars also like to go through windows)		
16. Do all of the windows have adequate locks in operating condition?		
17. Do windows have screens or storm windows that lock from the inside?		
18. Are exterior windows free from concealing structures or landscaping?		
 UPPER FLOOR WINDOWS (Burglars like these windows, too, so put ladders away)		
19. Ladders are kept inside.		
20. Upper floor windows are away from porch/garage roofs or roofs of adjoining buildings.		
21. Do all of the windows have adequate locks in operating condition?		
22. Do windows have screens or storm windows that lock from the inside?		
23. Are trees and shrubbery kept trimmed back from upper floor windows?		
BASEMENT DOORS AND WINDOWS		
24. Doors to the basement are internal doors.		
25. If the basement door is external, it is visible from the street or neighbors.		
26. If the door is external, it is adequately secured.		
27. Are all basement windows adequately secured?		

GARAGE DOORS AND WINDOWS	YES	NO
28. Is the automobile entrance door to the garage equipped with an adequate locking?		
29. Is the garage door kept closed and locked at all times?		
30. Are garage windows adequately secured?		
31. Is the outside utility entrance to the garage secured adequately?		
32. Are tools, ladders and other equipment kept in garage?		
33. Are all garage doors lighted on the outside by at least a 40-watt bulb?		
FRONT ENTRANCE		
34. Is the door made of metal or solid wood construction?		
35. Is the doorframe strong enough and tight enough to prevent entry?		
36. Are the door hinges on the inside?		
37. Windows are in the door or, windows are more than 40 inches from door locks.		
38. Is the door secured by a deadbolt lock that is at least 1-inch long?		
39. Is the strike plate adequate and properly installed with 3-inch screws?		
40. There are no windows in the door, and other windows are more than 40 inches from door locks.		
41. The locking mechanism cannot be reached from a mail slot or pet entrance.		
42. Is there a screen or storm door with an adequate lock?		
43. Is the front entrance lighted with at least a 40-watt light?		
44. Can the front entrance be observed from street or public areas?		
45. Landscaping is kept trimmed to be no higher than 2-feet. Trees are 6-feet open below the canopy.		
MAINTENANCE		
46. Garbage and recycling bins are taken in immediately after pickup.		
47. Newspapers and mail are picked up every day.		
48. The structure is painted and in a condition of good repair.		
49. Landscaping is kept trimmed.		
50. Old automobiles, boats, trailers, or other vehicles are stored away from your front yard.		
51. Graffiti is removed immediately every time it occurs.		
52. Windows are locked when you are away from home.		
53. Valuable items (jewelry, laptops, I-pods, etc.) are not visible through open curtains or blinds.		
ADDRESSES		
54. The mailbox is clearly marked with the street address. It should also be as close as possible to the front of the house and visible from the house.		
55. The street address is clearly visible from the street with numbers a minimum of 5" high that are made of non-reflective material.		
56. The numbers of the street address is clearly lighted at night.		
BUILDING LIGHTING		
57. Illuminates building numbers.		
58. Illuminates building accesses.		
59. Illuminates front, side, and back areas.		
60. Illuminates porch lights under control of building, not apartment user.		
61. Illuminates the corners as well as walls.		
62. Provides a cone of light downward to walkways, preferably from the side.		
63. Provides a level of lighting between buildings to distinguish forms and movement.		
OTHER		
64. Front facing balcony railings, fences, or walls are visually transparent, lower than 36 inches. If higher it is made of strong, high quality, wrought-iron picket-type fencing with pointed tips, or other low, 60% open fencing around the perimeter, or adequate landscaping to perform the same function.		
65. The parking area is visible from either the front or back door and at least one window.		
66. All areas of the yard are well lit so that oncoming persons can be clearly seen.		