



PUBLIC SAFETY ALERT

Over the past month, neighbourhoods have experienced a rise in high-end vehicle thefts from residential areas. The primary targets for the thieves include Lexus and Toyota SUVs, as well as Land Rovers.

The suspects are using various methods to reprogram or rekey the vehicle and then driving off from the area with little to no damage caused. The thefts are not just occurring overnight but also in the late afternoon and evening hours.

Owners can take the following steps to help protect their vehicles:

- **Park your vehicle inside or park a secondary car behind the target vehicle**
 - **Use steering wheel immobilizing devices**
 - **Use tire locking devices like the Wheel Boot or clamp.**
 - **Keep car keys away from the front door and inside a closed metal container or Faraday box**
- **Cover the vehicle identification number (VIN) on the driver's side dash with a piece of paper**
- **Purchase locks for On Board Diagnostics (OBD) ports of the vehicles**
- **Consider investment in aftermarket GPS or immobilization devices (ask dealerships for more information)**

If anyone sees anything suspicious, especially if people are approaching parked vehicles including the above mentioned models, they should report it to police.

If you have questions or would like to discuss these extra steps to protect your vehicle & prevent theft, please contact Crime Prevention / Community Safety Officer, Constable Timothy Somers, email - 90023@tps.ca

Steering wheel lock



Steering wheel locks are one of the oldest and best-known theft prevention devices on the market today. A steering wheel lock attaches to the steering wheel of the car to lock it in place, preventing someone from driving away. There are two main styles for this lock. The first goes across the steering wheel horizontally and attaches to the wheel at the 3 o'clock and 9 o'clock positions. On one side the lock extends farther, preventing the wheel from turning very far. The second style attaches to the top of the wheel with the end extending over the front dash to prevent the wheel from turning. The Club is one of the most popular models.

\$45 FROM AMAZON

\$58 FROM WALMART



THEFT PREVENTION EQUIPMENT



Tire lock

Electronic tracking system



Most security devices only prevent drive-off theft, but resourceful car thieves use various techniques to acquire cars, like towing or trailering their target vehicles. Using GPS is an ideal way to keep track of your vehicle, and you only have to pay a monthly subscription fee for the benefit.

Law enforcement can track the location data from your GPS, which means they can find your car and possibly get vital information to help track the thieves. A GPS tracking device can help you recover your vehicle no matter where the thief tries to hide it.

[BUY AT AMAZON](#)



You have probably seen these [used by police](#) if a car is parked illegally, but they are also useful as an anti-theft device. If you have space in your trunk, a tire lock (or boot) is a great way to prevent a carjacking. This is only feasible if you are parking your car for an extended amount of time, though. It just doesn't make sense to attach a boot every time you stop to fill up your tank or run into your favorite coffee shop for a double espresso. This also won't prevent anyone from breaking in and stealing things, so continue locking your doors.

And, if you get a tire lock, remember to invest in locking lug nuts. Otherwise, anyone with a spare wheel can steal your car by jacking it up, removing the lock and the wheel it's on, and putting a new one on.

\$27 FROM AMAZON

\$32 FROM WALMART