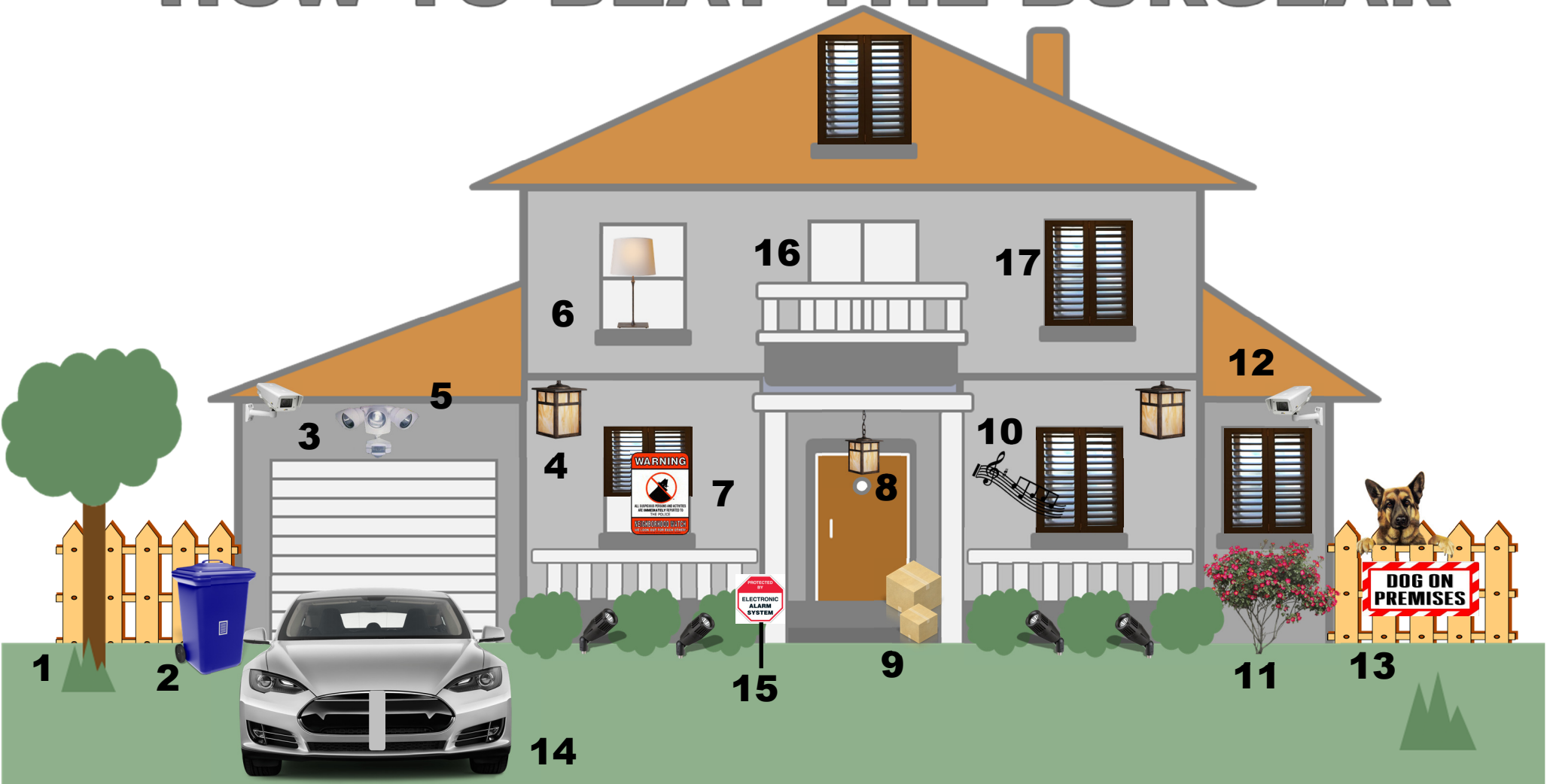


HOW TO BEAT THE BURGLAR



1. Locked Gate
2. Garbage Cans
3. Garage Doors
4. Exterior Lights
5. Exterior Motion Detector Lights

6. Interior Lights
7. N/W Sign
8. Peephole
9. Packages
10. Radio/TV
11. Defensible Landscaping

12. Cameras
13. Dogs
14. Vehicles
15. Security Systems
16. Sliding Doors
17. Windows



Burglars hit a house, apartment or condominium every 15 seconds. If the burglar picks your place, instead of the one next door, you may have inadvertently made it easier. Burglars look for what the police call “targets of opportunity,” in other words, easy pickings. The key to burglary prevention is to make your home look as though someone is at home 24/7.

HOW TO BEAT THE BURGLAR

1. Lock side gate, or place a secondary latch lower and out of reach from the front side.
2. Move garbage bins behind and away from the gate to avoid bins from being used to jump over the gate. When on vacation, have neighbors place bins curbside with garbage inside.
3. Keep all doors leading to the garage locked to protect valuables in the garage and discourage access through interior doors leading to your home. Install interior locks on the garage door and unplug the garage door opener when on vacation.
4. Use dusk to dawn exterior lights especially near all entry points of your home.
5. Reinforce exterior lighting with motion sensor lighting.
6. Interior lights signify someone is home. Use timers whenever you are not at home.
7. Display Neighborhood Watch sign in a visible window.
8. Install a peephole with at least 180 degrees of visibility. Don't open the door to a stranger or leave a note on the door stating you are gone. Reinforce all doors with 1" inch deadbolts with large strike plates and brass screws at least 3: inches long.
9. Control deliveries to prevent package theft by signing up for text alerts, asking a neighbor pick them up or have them delivered to your workplace. Some companies allow packages to be picked up at facilities with lockers.
10. Leave a television or radio on to give the impression that someone is home.
11. Place defensible plants below windows. Throughout your property, keep shrubs 2 feet in height, trees lines neatly trimmed above 7 feet and the grass mowed. Don't give a burglar a place to hide.
12. Place cameras to achieve optimal visibility and learn how to retrieve camera footage for the police if needed.
13. If you don't have a dog, place items such as a dog bowl, toy or a "Beware of Dog" sign to give the impression you have a dog. If you do have a dog, place a "Dog on Premises" sign.
14. The safest place for your car is in the garage. Back-in vehicles when parking to be more alert against car-jacking and robbery. When on vacation, ask neighbors to park in your driveway.
15. Security systems should provide video or audio verification.
16. Reinforce sliding doors with horizontal lock bars, foot locks or pin locks.
17. Strengthen windows with locking hardware such as twist locks or dowels, depending on the design of the windows. Drilling pins in the upper tract can also prevent sliding windows from getting lifted off the track.