

# PROTECTING YOUR HOME FROM BURGLARS



## WINDOWS

Glass is easy to break but not all burglars will break glass due to the noise it makes. Be sure to use good window locks and take extra precautions for basement or hidden windows. Remember A/C units can be pushed in.

## DOORS

Keep doors locked even when you are home. Be sure to use good solid deadbolt locks. Be sure to secure sliding glass doors with locks or a dowel rod.

## EXTERIOR LIGHTS

Good lighting reduced risk. Leave lights on at night using energy-efficient bulbs, motion detectors, timers, or sensors.

## HOUSE NUMBERS

Make sure numbers are easily visible, especially at night. This helps first responders find your house faster.

## GARAGES

Be sure to always keep doors closed and locked even when home.

## SHRUBS

Criminals may hide in overgrown landscapes, so trim back shrubs and other plants from doors and windows.



# HOME SECURITY CHECKLIST

Use this as a guide as you check your home for safety measures. Boxes marked “no” indicate areas where you could take action to improve your home’s security. These are just some of the steps you can take to decrease the likelihood that you or your home is targeted.

<b>EXTERIOR DOORS</b>	<b>YES</b>	<b>NO</b>
All doors are locked at night and every time we leave the house—even if it’s just for a few minutes.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Doors are solid hardwood or metal-clad.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Doors feature wide-angle peepholes at heights everyone can use.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
If there are glass panels in or near our doors, they are reinforced in some way so that they cannot be shattered.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
All entryways have a working, keyed entry lock and sturdy deadbolt lock installed into the frame of the door.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Spare keys are kept with a trusted neighbor, not under a doormat or planter, on a ledge, or in the mailbox.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>GARAGE AND SLIDING DOOR SECURITY</b>		
The door leading from the attached garage to the house is solid wood or metal-clad and protected with a quality keyed door lock and deadbolt.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
The overhead garage door has a lock so that we do not rely solely on the automatic door opener to provide security.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Garage doors are all locked when leaving the house.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
The sliding glass door has a strong, working key lock.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
A dowel or a pin to secure a glass door has been installed to prevent the door from being shoved aside or lifted off the track.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
The sliding door is locked every night and each time we leave the house.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>PROTECTING WINDOWS</b>		
Every window in the house has a working key lock or is securely pinned.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Windows are always locked, even when they are opened a few inches for ventilation.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>OUTDOOR SECURITY</b>		
Shrubs and bushes are trimmed so there is no place for someone to hide.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
There are no dark areas around our house, garage, or yard at night that would hide prowlers.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Every outside door has a bright, working light to illuminate visitors.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Floodlights are used appropriately to ensure effective illumination.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Outdoor lights are on in the evening—whether someone is at home or not or a photocell or motion-sensitive lighting system has been installed.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Our house number is clearly displayed so police and other emergency vehicles can find the house quickly.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>SECURITY WHEN AWAY FROM HOME</b>		
At least two light timers have been set to turn the lights on and off in a logical sequence, when we are away from home for an extended time period.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
The motion detector or other alarm system (if we have one) has been activated when we leave home.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Mail and newspaper deliveries have been stopped or arrangements for a neighbor/friend to pick them up have been made when we go away from home for a period of time.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
A neighbor has been asked to tend the yard and watch our home when we are away.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>OUTDOOR VALUABLES AND PERSONAL PROPERTY</b>		
Gate latches, garage doors, and shed doors are all blocked with high-security, laminated padlocks.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Grills, lawn mowers, and other valuables are stored in a locked garage or shed, or if left out in the open, are hidden from view with a tarp and securely locked to a stationary point.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Every bicycle is secured with a U-bar lock or quality padlock and chain.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Bikes are always locked, even if we leave them for just a minute.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Firearms are stored unloaded and locked in storage boxes and secured with trigger guard locks.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Valuable items, such as television, stereos, and computers have been inscribed with identifying number approved by local police.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Our home inventory is up-to-date and includes pictures. A complete copy is kept somewhere out of the house.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>