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 to protect basement or hidden windows.

EXTERIOR LIGHTS

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

SHRUBS

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

DOORS

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

HOUSE NUMBERS

Make sure numbers easily visible, especially at night. This helps emergency responders locate your home faster.

GARAGES

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

SICPD

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.

EXTERIOR DOORS	YES	NO
All doors are locked at night and every time we leave the house—even if it's just for a few minutes.	☐	☐
Doors are solid hardwood or metal-clad.	☐	☐
Doors feature wide-angle peepholes at heights everyone can use.	☐	☐
If there are glass panels in or near our doors, they are reinforced in some way so that they cannot be shattered.	☐	☐
All entryways have a working, keyed entry lock and sturdy deadbolt lock installed into the frame of the door.	☐	☐
Spare keys are kept with a trusted neighbor, not under a doormat or planter, on a ledge, or in the mailbox.	☐	☐

GARAGE AND SLIDING DOOR SECURITY		
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.	☐	☐
The overhead garage door has a lock so that we do not rely solely on the automatic door opener to provide security.	☐	☐
Garage doors are all locked when leaving the house.	☐	☐
The sliding glass door has a strong, working key lock.	☐	☐
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.	☐	☐
The sliding door is locked every night and each time we leave the house.	☐	☐

PROTECTING WINDOWS		
Every window in the house has a working key lock or is securely pinned.	☐	☐
Windows are always locked, even when they are opened a few inches for ventilation.	☐	☐

OUTDOOR SECURITY		
Shrubs and bushes are trimmed so there is no place for someone to hide.	☐	☐
There are no dark areas around our house, garage, or yard at night that would hide prowlers.	☐	☐
Every outside door has a bright, working light to illuminate visitors.	☐	☐
Floodlights are used appropriately to ensure effective illumination.	☐	☐
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.	☐	☐
Our house number is clearly displayed so police and other emergency vehicles can find the house quickly.	☐	☐

SECURITY WHEN AWAY FROM HOME		
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.	☐	☐
The motion detector or other alarm system (if we have one) has been activated when we leave home.	☐	☐
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.	☐	☐
A neighbor has been asked to tend the yard and watch our home when we are away.	☐	☐

OUTDOOR VALUABLES AND PERSONAL PROPERTY		
Gate latches, garage doors, and shed doors are all blocked with high-security, laminated padlocks.	☐	☐
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.	☐	☐
Every bicycle is secured with a U-bar lock or quality padlock and chain.	☐	☐
Bikes are always locked, even if we leave them for just a minute.	☐	☐
Firearms are stored unloaded and locked in storage boxes and secured with trigger guard locks.	☐	☐
Valuable items, such as television, stereos, and computers have been inscribed with identifying number approved by local police.	☐	☐
Our home inventory is up-to-date and includes pictures. A complete copy is kept somewhere out of the house.	☐	☐