



HOME AND VEHICLE SECURITY CHECKLIST



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

Garage and Sliding Door Security	Yes	No
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	Yes	No
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	Yes	No
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	Yes	No
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.		
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.		

Outdoor Valuables and Personal Property	Yes	No
Gate latches, garage doors, and shed doors are all locked with high-security, laminated padlocks.		
Gate latches, garage doors, and shed doors are locked after every use.		
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 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.		

Home and Vehicle Recommendations

By securing your house and vehicle properly, you can make your residence and vehicle much less likely to be broken into. Here are some prevention recommendations to help reduce your chances of becoming the next victim:

Home Security

- **Always** lock your doors and windows, even when leaving for “just a few minutes.” Most burglaries happen during the day and enter through unlocked doors or windows.
- Never leave house keys available: under the doormat, in a flowerpot, or on the ledge of the door.
- Exterior doors should have deadbolt locks with a 1-inch metal bar extending into the door frame. The screws that secure the lock plates into the frames should be replaced with 3” screws.
- Sliding doors and windows should all have anti-lift devices as well as auxiliary locks to bolster security.
- Engrave all your valuables using your Driver’s License **Do Not** use your Social Security Number. Keep an inventory with serial numbers in case of theft.

Vehicle Security

- Lock your car even if you are making a quick stop at the gas station. An unlocked car is open invitation to a car thief.
- Do not step away from your car that is idling even for a moment, even in your own driveway. Especially if your kids are in the car.
- Close all windows-do not leave windows open even a little.
- Be sure the vent or wind-wing windows are shut tight and locked.
- When not in your car, even for a moment, remove all valuables (including loose change) and accessories and take them with you.
- Use steering wheel locks, especially if your car is one sought after by thieves.

Remember: The best locks in the world only work when you use them.

Promptly report all criminal or suspicious activity to the Fresno Police Department at 559-621-7000.

CrimeStoppers: (559) 498-STOP or report online: www.valleycrimestoppers.org

Fresno Police and Neighborhood Watch: www.makefresnosafef.org