

St. Louis Metropolitan Police Community Outreach Home Security Survey

Remember: make it difficult for the burglar by making sure you've taken these simple and often inexpensive precautions.

Neighborhood Security	Yes	No	Garage	Yes	No
Have you met and become acquainted with neighbors?			Is the garage door kept locked when not in use?		
Have you talked to your neighbors about mutual neighborhood security?			When on vacation or when home is unattended is the overhead track garage door disconnected?		
Do you tell your neighbor when your home is unoccupied for an extended period?			When home is unoccupied is a padlock inserted in a hole preventing door from being opened?		
Do you belong to a Neighborhood Watch or association?			Are doors leading from the garage into the home solid wood or metal core?		
Is there effective lighting in your neighborhood?			Are garage windows pinned to deny easy access?		
Home Exterior	Yes	No	Are electronic garage openers removed from vehicles parked outside garage?		
Are house numbers easily visible?			Doors	Yes	No
Are house numbers painted on the curb?			Are exterior or entrance doors either solid core or steel?		
If your home has a mailbox near the street, are your house numbers on the mailbox?			Are door locks that can be opened from the inside at least 40 inches from the glass?		
If neighborhood has an alley are house numbers visible from the alley?			For exterior doors with glazing within 40 inches of the door lock break resistant polycarbonate?		
Are shrubs, bushes and other plants maintained at a height not more than 2 (feet)?			Do exterior or entrance doors have wide angle door viewers?		
Are trees trimmed so that lower branches are 6 (feet) off the ground?			Are exterior door strike plates secured by 3" screws?		
Are spiny (thorny) plants used as ground cover, and under fences?			If exterior doors swing outward, have hinge pins been replaced with non-removable pins?		
Has decorative stone or rock been used as ground cover?			Have screws been installed in sliding glass doors?		
Are the gates around your property kept locked?			Are locking bars used to secure sliding glass doors?		
Are items of value kept secure such as ladders, bicycles, lawn mowers?			Locks	Yes	No
Are all entryways, porches and walkways to the residence well lighted?			Are deadbolt locks with at least a 1" throw installed on all exterior or entrance doors?		
Are exterior lights controlled by motion detectors?			Was the home re-keyed or the locks changed the last time a new occupant moved in?		

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Is motion detection lighting used on the exterior of the home?			Do occupants of the home hide keys outside the house?		
Are the door locks in good state of repair?			Miscellaneous Home security Measures Cont.	Yes	No
Windows	Yes	No	Are all exterior doors locked at night or when the home is unoccupied?		
Have double hung windows been pinned?			Is radio or television left on and playing when the home is unoccupied?		
Have crank handles been removed from casement windows?			Are interior lights visible from the outside left on when home is unoccupied at night?		
Are basement windows secured?			If there is death in the family are arrangements made for a house-sitter?		
Are window air conditioners anchored to prevent removal?			Are children taught not to open the door?		
Security Alarm System	Yes	NO	Is there a cellular phone in the house in the event telephone lines are inoperative?		
Does the home have an electronic intrusion/panic alarm system?			Are accessible openings to the home such a crawl spaces vents, etc. protected and locked?		
Was the alarm professionally installed by a reliable company?			Is there any type of home or personal identification information on key rings?		
Is the alarm monitored by a professional alarm monitoring company?			Vacation Checklists	Yes	No
If the alarm system is more than five years old, has equipment been updated?			Are home deliveries stopped and mail arranged for pick up?		
Have household members been trained how to arm and disarm system?			Are trusted neighbors asked to watch the residence when occupants are away on vacation?		
Does the alarm system have a back-up power source (battery)?			Are arrangements made to have lawn mowed or snow removed during vacation?		
Miscellaneous Home Security Measures	Yes	No	Is law enforcement or Neighborhood Watch Group notified when occupant is on vacation?		
Does the home have a security closet for storage of firearms, silver etc. with high security lock?			Is an emergency number left with trusted neighbors for the occupant to be reached?		
Does the home have a burglary resistant safe?			Are lights and radios connected to timers to turn on and off?		
Have valuable papers been placed in a rented safe deposit box?			Does the message on the answering machine indicate the homeowner is on vacation?		
Has the homeowner participated in Operation Identification?			Are window shades and blinds in their normal position when on vacation?		
Has the homeowner made an inventory of household items by photo or videotape?			Is the bell or ringer on the home telephone turned down low when the occupant is away?		

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**One of the most important steps you can do to help us in the apprehension and prosecution of burglars is to
MARK YOUR BELONGINGS.**

Items should be marked in such a way that only you the owner can locate and identify. Use an engraver or ultraviolet marker to mark your property. Take pictures of all valuables like jewelry, silverware and write down the makes, models and serial numbers of your TV, video equipment, DVD, stereo/CD player, home computer, camera equipment and so on. These steps will help us and you identify them if they are stolen.

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