



RESIDENTIAL SECURITY

→ CONDUCT YOUR OWN SECURITY ASSESSMENT WITH THESE HELPFUL TIPS

OUTSIDE

- Make sure street numbers are highly visible.
- Keep shrubs and bushes trimmed.
- Ensure there are no dark areas around home/garage or yard at night.
- Make sure there is a bright, working light outside every door.
- Ensure your crawlspace is locked.

EXTERIOR DOORS

- Lock all doors at night and every time you leave your home.
- Ensure doors are solid hardwood or metal-clad.
- Make sure doors have wide-angle peepholes.
- All entryways should have a working, keyed entry lock and sturdy deadbolt lock.
- Deadbolt lock should have a minimum 1” throw and 3” screws in the strike plate.
- Spare keys should be kept with a trusted neighbor, not an outside hiding spot.

SLIDING GLASS DOOR

- Ensure your sliding glass door has strong, working key lock.
- A dowel can be placed in the track to keep door from being shoved aside.
- Install a pin to keep door from being lifted off track.



- Lock sliding door every night and each time you leave your home.
- Install blinds/curtains/shades to prevent someone seeing inside.

WINDOWS

- **Wood windows:** Ensure every window in the house has a working key or is securely pinned.
- **Vinyl/insulated windows:** Preinstalled tabs (if applicable) are kept out to prevent lifting.
- **Vinyl/insulated windows:** Place dowels to prevent lifting/sliding.
- Always keep windows locked.
- Install blinds/curtains/shades to prevent someone seeing inside.

GARAGES & OUTBUILDINGS

- Make sure your door leading from an attached garage to the house and doors to outbuildings are solid wood or metal-clad, protected with keyed door lock and deadbolt.
 - Deadbolt lock should have a minimum 1” throw and 3” screws in the strike plate.
- Ensure your overhead garage door has a lock.
- Lock all garage doors when leaving your home.
- Ensure windows have working locks or securely pinned.
- Install blinds/curtains/shades to prevent someone from seeing inside.
- Non-standard doors to outbuildings should be secured with a hasp & lock with door hinges on inside.
- Ensure adequate lighting at the outbuilding.

OTHER SECURITY MEASURES

- Consider installing an alarm system, video doorbells, smart lighting or home security cameras.
- Make sure these items are activated every time you leave your home.
- Have a list of your valuables to include serial numbers and/or pictures/video, in a safe, safe deposit box or with a trusted family member/friend. Update this list regularly.
- Have a neighbor/friend tend to your yard and watch your home when you are away.
- Stop any mail and newspaper deliveries when you are away for an extended

period of time, or have a neighbor pick the items up daily.

- Have at least two light timers set to turn on and off in a logical sequence when you are away from your home for an extended period of time.



ADDITIONAL INFO

DISCLAIMER: While our recommendations do not guarantee a crime-free environment, it is our experience that the application of these suggestions and recommendations will help reduce the opportunity for crime to occur and will enhance the quality of life.

CRIME PREVENTION: Security devices are only effective if used correctly and consistently. Use this guide to check your home’s safety measures.

Areas where you may have answered “no” should result in efforts to improve your home’s security.

(Information updated March 2026)