



Residential Safety Tips

1. When you leave your home, remember to keep all doors & windows closed & securely fastened. An open window or door is a ready invitation for burglars. Thieves are also quick to spot weak locks that may be easily forced open. Doors should have deadbolt locks with a one-inch throw & reinforced strike plate with three-inch screws. All windows should have window locks.
2. Secure sliding glass doors. Place a metal rod or piece of plywood in the track & install vertical bolts. These will help prevent burglars from forcing the door open or lifting it off the track.
3. Always lock the door to an attached garage. Don't rely on your automatic garage door opener for security.
4. Create the illusion that you are home. By using timers on lights, radios & TV's. Making your residence appear occupied, even when no one is home, will deter criminals.
5. Keep the perimeter of your home well lighted. Installing low voltage outdoor lighting is a cost-effective way to discourage intruders, as well as highlight a house.
6. Never leave clues that you are away on a trip. Have a trusted neighbor collect mail & newspapers while you are away so delivered items do not accumulate. You can also ask a neighbor to park in your driveway or parking place to make it appear that you are present.
7. Keep some shades & blinds up and curtains open to maintain a normal, everyday appearance in your residence.
8. Never leave a message on your phone answering machine telling people that you are away from home. A message that you will return at a certain time leaves your home vulnerable in the interim.
9. Keep shrubbery trimmed away from entrances & walkways. While large, ornate hedges may be beautiful, they also provide a hiding place for burglars who need only a minute to break in.
10. Keep spare keys with a trusted neighbor, not under a doormat, planter, ledge, or in the mailbox.
11. Before leaving for an extended period of time, request a Vacation Watch for your home by calling the JCPD at 678-474-1561.
12. Join the PACT (Police & Community Together) neighborhood watch program by calling Community Services at 678-484-1587. An alert community is a safe community.