

SHERIFF WAYNE IVEY

BREVARD COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE



Protecting Your Home

Protect your home from crime and give yourself peace of mind!

Intruders look for easy targets. They want to enter quickly and easily and not be seen. The more difficult you make it for them, the lower your risk of a burglary. Home security isn't costly. Common sense, and taking the time to evaluate your home can go a long way.

Ways to keep your home safe and secure

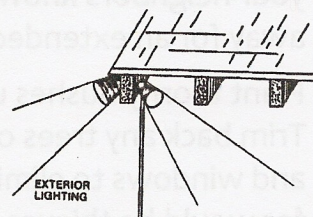
You can have a significant effect upon the security of your residence by taking a few moments to assess its weaknesses. Take a few more moments to take simple actions (many of which cost nothing but your time or a bit of physical exertion) to eliminate or strengthen those weaknesses.

In order to assess your home, you have to learn to "think like a thief." Eliminate as many of the opportunities or vulnerable points as you can.

Here are some tips to help target harden your home:

Security Tips

- Position outdoor lights carefully. Motion-sensitive lighting is recommended and gives your home the appearance of being occupied.
- If your house keys have been stolen or lost, replace the lock cylinders, immediately.
- Don't put valuables where they can be seen from a window, especially items that can be easily carried.
- Don't keep large amounts of cash or very valuable jewelry around the house.
- Don't leave a house key under a mat, in the mailbox, or in any other "hiding" area near the door.
- Install a wide-angle peephole to get a fuller view of the outside area.



More information on reverse side



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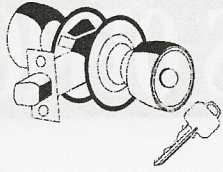
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- Install single cylinder dead-bolt locks on all doors. Bolts should have a minimum throw of 1 inch. Strike plates should have screws that are at least 3 inches long. Doors should be solid hardwood or metal clad. Hinges should be located on the inside or have non-removable pins. Special locks are need on double doors.



- Whenever you go outside, lock the door and take the key with you, even if you are just stepping next door or out mowing the back yard.
- Work together with your neighbors. Organize a Neighborhood Watch and let your neighbors know when you will be away for an extended period.
- Plant thorny bushes under all windows. Trim back any trees or shrubs near doors and windows to eliminate hiding places for would-be thieves.
- Consider installing a burglar alarm system.
- Don't leave ladders outside. Keep any tools that could be used to break in your home safely locked away in a garage or shed.
- Mark all valuables such as electronics microwaves, with your driver's license number. (Engraving tools are usually available through your local law enforcement agency.) Videotape the contents of your home. Keep the video and a list of your valuables in a safe place, such as a safety deposit box.
- Sliding glass doors are vulnerable. Special locks are available for better security.
- Keep your garage door closed and locked.
- Don't forget your windows. Install key locks or window pegs.

Neighborhood Watch

Neighborhood Watch is a crime prevention program that enlists the active participation of residents in cooperation with law enforcement to reduce crime, solve problems, and improve the quality of life in your area. In it you will get to know and work with your neighbors, and learn how to:



- Recognize and report crimes and suspicious activities,
- Protect your neighbor's family and property, and
- Identify crime and disorder problems in your area and work with Sheriff's Office personnel to solve crime
- Also learn about Operation Identification and how to record and mark your property.

Residential Security Survey

- Free
- Confidential

Crime Prevention Practitioners are available to visit your home and inspect the interior and exterior of the home to identify potential security concerns, and recommend simple, cost effective solutions.

For more information please contact:

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