

HOME SECURITY CHECKLIST

Use this guide as you check your home for safety measures. Boxes marked “no” indicate areas where you could take action to improve you home’s security. These are just some of the steps you can take to decrease the likelihood that you or your home 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 wood or metal-clad, or have an exterior security door.		
Doors feature wide-angle peepholes.		
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, planter, on a ledge, or in the mailbox.		

Garage and Sliding Doors	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.		
Garage doors are all locked when leaving the house.		
The sliding glass door has a strong, working key lock.		
A dowel or 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 lock or is securely pinned.		
Windows on the ground floor or easily accessible, are always locked, even when they are open a few inches for ventilation.		

Outdoor Security	Yes	No
Our house number is clearly displayed so police and other emergency vehicles can find the house quickly.		
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.		

Security When Away From Home	Yes	No
At least 2 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.		
A motion detector or other alarm system (if we have one) has been activated when we leave home.		
Mail and newspaper deliveries have been stopped or arrangements for a neighbor/friend to pick them up have been made when we go away for a period of time.		
A neighbor has been asked to tend the yard and watch our home when we are away.		

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 movers, and other valuables are stored in a locked garage or shed, or if left out, are hidden from view with a tarp and securely locked to a stationary point.		
Every bike is secured with a U-bar lock or quality padlock and chain.		
Firearms are stored unloaded and locked in storage boxes or are secured with trigger guard locks.		
Valuable items, such as TVs, stereos, and computers have been inscribed with identifying numbers.		