

Protect Yourself from Burglary

According to the FBI, a burglary occurs in the United States every 15.4 seconds. The majority of home and apartment burglaries occur during the daytime when most people are away at work or at school. Burglars tend to choose unoccupied homes with the easiest access, the greatest amount of cover, and the best escape routes. Following is a list of suggestions to minimize your risk of being burglarized:



- Keep all your doors and windows closed and locked
- Use heavy-duty deadbolt locks with one-inch throw bolts for all standard exterior doors
- Use blocking devices and anti-lift devices, such as through-the-door pins or upper track screws, on all sliding glass doors
- Secure all accessible windows with secondary blocking devices, so that they open no more than 6 inches for ventilation
- Get to know your adjacent neighbors and agree to watch each other's home
- Pick up newspapers and flyers for your neighbors, and ask them to do the same for you
- Use light timers to establish a pattern of occupancy
- Install bright exterior lighting to eliminate hiding places around the front of your home
- Use motion sensor lights on the rear of your home
- Alarm systems are effective deterrents with visible signage
- Use highly visible burglar alarm or crime prevention decals, beware of dog decals, or block watch decals, especially on ground accessible windows
- Identify valuables by engraving an identification number on them
- Photograph and record the serial numbers of valuables
- Obtain a home safe and use it to protect your valuables
- Keep garage doors closed even when you are home
- Lock any door connecting the garage to your house; don't rely on an electric garage door for security
- Contact the Denver Police Department district station in your neighborhood for more information

Keys to Prevention

- ***Be a Hard Target:*** deadbolt doors, block sliding doors and secure windows.
- ***Be a Good Neighbor:*** know your neighbors, agree to watch each other's homes, and pick up mail and newspapers.
- ***Be Bright, Be Safe:*** use interior and exterior lighting to make your home unattractive to burglars.
- ***Visual Deterrents:*** use alarm decals, security signs, dog warnings, and neighborhood watch stickers to deter burglars.
- ***Never Offer an Invitation:*** don't let answering machine messages, newspapers, open curtains & other indicators invite burglars when you're away.