

This survey is designed to be a do-it-yourself security assessment of your home. While no home is absolutely burglar-proof, you can discourage burglars by beefing up your home and neighborhood security.

NEIGHBORHOOD				Yes	No	Fix
Do you know and communicate with the neighbors living on all sides of you?						
Is there an active Neighborhood Watch program in your community?						
Do you belong to the Neighborhood Watch Program?						
Do your neighbors watch your home when you are away?						
Are the common areas such as sidewalks, mailboxes, and courtyards adjacent to your home well lit?						
EXTERIOR OF YOUR HOME				Yes	No	Fix
Are your house numbers large enough to be seen (4 to 6 inches) and visible from the street?						
Are shrubs, bushes, and other plant growth within 4 feet of a sidewalk, driveway, door, or gate maintained at a height of 2 feet or less?						
Are shrubs, bushes, and other plant growth 4 to 8 feet from a sidewalk, driveway, door, or gate maintained at a height of 4 feet or less?						
Are trees trimmed so that the lower branches are at least 6 feet above ground?						
Do you use thorny/spiny plants as ground cover along fences and under windows?						
Are you using decorative rock or stone that makes noise when someone walks on them adjacent to your home?						
Has fencing, paving, landscaping, or some other means been used to identify when a person moves from community property to public property?						
Is there a fence around your property and are the gates kept locked?						
Are items such as bicycles, wagons, lawn mowers, ladders, etc. locked up when not in use?						
Are entryways, sidewalks, and porches to the home illuminated at night?						
Are exterior lights controlled by photo cells rather than switches?						
If you have motion detecting lights, are they positioned to avoid false activations?						
Are low mounting lights protected so light bulbs cannot be unscrewed?						
Are exterior telephone lines protected so they cannot be easily cut?						
Are exterior utility boxes (electricity, cable, telephone) padlocked to prevent unauthorized access.						
Are vehicles kept locked when not in use?						
Garage				Yes	No	Fix
Is the overhead garage door kept closed when not in use?						
If you do not have a garage door opener, is the garage door kept locked?						
Are keys removed from the vehicles when they are parked in the garage?						
Are valuables kept away from garage windows or are the windows frosted?						
If a keypad is used for entry into the garage, is the code changed often?						
Are doors from the garage to the home kept locked?						

Doors	Yes	No	Fix
Are exterior doors including the door from the garage to the home of solid construction or metal encased?			
Do the exterior doors fit tightly in the door jamb?			
Are door locks at least 40 inches from glass windows or are double keyed cylinder dead bolt locks used?			
Do exterior doors have wide angle 180 degree viewers?			
If exterior doors swing outward and have exposed hinges, have the pins been welded or otherwise secured in place?			
Are exterior door strike plates secured to the house using at least 3 inch screws?			
Have screws been installed in the top track of patio sliding glass doors to prevent the door from being lifted off the track (screws should extend 1/2 to 3/4 inch below the door frame)?			
Have locking "Charlie" bars been installed in the center of sliding doors in lieu of wooden dowels in the bottom track?			
Are exterior doors kept locked, even when someone is home?			
Are door locks in good repair?			
Are keys removed from double cylinder deadbolts?			
Was the residence re-keyed the last time an occupant moved in or out?			
Are keys to the home not hidden outside?			
Are deadbolt locks with a minimum of 1" throw installed on all exterior doors (including garage pedestrian doors)?			
Windows	Yes	No	Fix
Have secondary locks been installed on windows capable of being open?			
Are window air conditioners anchored and protected to prevent removal from the outside?			
When you are away, are windows covered to protect valuables from being seen from outside?			
Are windows kept closed and locked no more than 6 inches even when someone is home?			
Alarm Systems	Yes	No	Fix
Does your home have an intrusion alarm system?			
Is the alarm system monitored by a professional			
Has everyone with a key to the home been trained to properly arm or disarm the alarm system?			
Does the alarm system have a battery back-up system in case of a power failure?			
Does the alarm system have a cellular or radio back-up system in case of a telephone outage?			
Miscellaneous	Yes	No	Fix
Does the home have a safe for storage of firearms and valuables?			
Have valuable papers been secured in a safe deposit box?			
If you have a safe, is it bolted to the house to prevent removal?			
Do you have an accurate inventory of your valuables that includes make, model, and serial number?			
Is there a cellular phone in the house in case the telephone lines are cut or inoperative?			

Miscellaneous	Yes	No	Fix
Have you engraved items of value with a unique number that would help identify your property should it be stolen?			
Is there a corded phone in the house in case of a power outage that disables cordless phones?			
Are alternative entry points (skylights, crawl spaces, vents, etc.) secured and locked?			
Have you removed identifying information from your key rings in case they are lost or stolen?			
Are interior lights visible from the outside left on at night when the home is unoccupied?			
Are documents with personal information shredded before being placed in the trash?			
Is a radio or television left on and playing when the home is unoccupied?			
Vacation Checklist	Yes	No	Fix
Are home deliveries stopped and arrangements made for a trusted neighbor or family member to pick-up mail, newspapers, and packages?			
Are trusted neighbors asked to watch your residence when you are away?			
Are arrangements made to have the lawn mowed when you are away?			
Are arrangements made to have garbage cans placed for pick-up and returned to the house on pick-up days?			
Do you provide emergency contact information to a trusted neighbor or family member when you are away?			
Is the ringer on the phone turned off or down when you are away?			
Is the automatic garage door opener deactivated when you are away?			
Do you use a timing device for your interior lights when you are away?			
Are you careful not to tell people your schedule if there is no need for them to know?			
Are you sure not to change our answering machine message to reflect that you are away?			
Do you listen to your messages daily on your phone machine so the "beep" does not indicate you are gone and the mailbox is full?			