EXTERIOR DOORS

All doors are locked at night and every time everyone leaves the house, even if just for a few minutes.

Door are solid hardwood or metal-clad.

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 or planter, on a ledge, or in the mailbox.

GARAGE AND SLIDING DOOR SECURITY

The door leading from the attached garage to the house is solid wood or metal-clad and is protected with a keyed door lock and deadbolt.

The overhead garage door has a lock so that the automatic door opener is not relied on for security.

Garage doors are locked when leaving the house.

All sliding glass doors have strong, working, engaged locks.

A dowel or a pin to secure a glass door has been installed to prevent the door from being shoved aside or lifted off the track.

All sliding doors are locked every night and when the house is unoccupied.

One of the most important things you can do is to be proactive about your personal safety. Please use this list as a guide for ensuring safety in your home. These are just some of the steps you can take to decrease the likelihood that you or your home will be targeted. Please consider taking these actions to improve your home and personal safety/security.

PROTECTING WINDOWS

- Every window in the house has a working key lock or is securely pinned.

- Windows are always locked, even when open a few inches for ventilation.

EXTERIOR DOORS

- All doors are locked at night and every time everyone leaves the house, even if just for a few minutes.

- Doors feature wide-angle peepholes at heights everyone can use.

- If there are glass panels in or near the doors, they are reinforced in some way so that they cannot be shattered.

SECURITY WHEN AWAY FROM HOME

- The motion detector or other alarm system (if present) is activated when no one is home.

- At least two light timers are set to turn the lights on and off in a logical sequence when away from home for an extended period of time.

- Mail and newspaper deliveries are stopped or arrangements for a neighbor to pick them up are made.

- A neighbor is asked to tend the yard and watch the home.

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OUTDOOR VALUABLES AND PERSONAL PROPERTY
- Gate latches, garage doors and shed doors are locked after every use with quality padlocks.
- Grills, lawn mowers, and other valuables are stored in a locked garage or shed, or if left out in the open, are hidden from view with a tarp and securely locked to a stationary point.
- Every bicycle is secured with a U-bar lock or quality padlock and chain.
- Bikes are always locked, even if only left briefly.
- Firearms are stored unloaded and locked in storage boxes and secured with trigger guard locks.
- Valuable items such as TVs, stereos and computers have been inscribed with identifying numbers and a list of those numbers is kept outside the home.
- A home inventory is up to date and includes pictures. A copy of this complete list is kept outside of the house.
- Keep vehicles locked at all times.

OUTDOOR SECURITY
- Shrubs and bushes are trimmed so they do not provide a place for someone to hide.
- There are no dark areas around the house, garage or yard at night that could hide prowlers.
- Every outside door has a bright, working light to illuminate visitors.
- Floodlights are used appropriately to ensure effective illumination.
- The house number is clearly displayed so police and other emergency vehicles can find the house quickly.
- Outdoor lights are on in the evening, whether or not someone is at home (unless a photocell or motion-sensitive lighting system is installed).