

CRIME PREVENTION INFORMATION:

District Offices, Calgary Police Service

Your Community Liaison Officer can help with safety and security concerns in your community.

Community Liaison Officers are available through Calgary Police Service District Offices, which are listed on the Calgary Police Service Blue Page in the Telus White Pages Telephone Directory.

Register for Police and Community Awareness Program (PCAP)

Call 403-645-2990 or calgarypolice.ca to register for PCAP, the Police and Community Awareness Program.

PCAP lets you know by telephone or email message if there's a community crime concern that police would like you to know about. It's free and it is a great way to keep informed about concerns in your neighbourhood.

Additional Crime Prevention Information
Please visit calgarypolice.ca



How to Keep your Home and Property Safe and Secure



Easy safety and security tips
for your home, auto and
neighbourhood

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Calgary Police Service, Crime Prevention Unit,
Calgary, Alberta, Canada



ALBERTA MOTOR ASSOCIATION

KEEPING YOUR PROPERTY SAFE

It can be surprisingly easy to help prevent crimes from happening to your home, your vehicle and other property. In most cases, it comes down to three key principles:

- Look at your home and auto from a criminal's point of view (think of this as CSI before a crime!)
- Lock it up! It's your first line of defense, and it's a good one. Use high quality locks and hardware.
- Be alert to suspicious people and vehicles in your neighbourhood, and report them to police.

CAN ALL CRIME BE PREVENTED?

While it's not possible to prevent every single crime from happening, you can reduce the opportunity for it to happen to your property.

A few basic precautions is all it takes to take away the opportunity for a criminal to act.

KEEPING YOUR HOME SAFE

Most burglaries can be prevented by the use of good locks and simple strategies.

- Start with your neighbourhood. Burglars don't like to operate in areas where neighbours watch out for neighbours.
- Look at your yard and neighbourhood areas from a burglar's point of view.
- Trim trees and bushes that could hide burglars
- Pay attention to trees growing near your house: could a burglar climb a tree and get onto your roof or in through a window?

- Maintain your property so that people see it's taken care of: cut grass, rake leaves, remove debris and shovel snow as needed.
- Install exterior lights to brighten dark areas around doors and windows.
- Make sure emergency personnel can see your house address, even at night and from the back of your property too (if you have a back alley, for example).

Check your doors and windows:

- Exterior doors and frames should be made of solid wood or steel.
- Exterior doors should have deadbolt locks, which require a key to lock and unlock them from the outside.
- If your door has no glass in it, install a peephole viewer so you can see who's outside it.
- If your door has glass in it, make sure it's more than 102 centimeters (40 inches) from the door handle. If it's not, you can have security film installed to help prevent break-ins.
- Make sure that your windows lock properly.
- Make sliding glass windows and doors more secure by placing a wood stick or metal bar between the frame and the door.
- For excellent tips on securing doors and windows, visit Canada Mortgage and Housing at cmhc.ca.
- Security bars and grills for windows must never prevent people from escaping a fire, and must not be used on bedroom windows.
- All renovations or upgrades to windows and doors must meet fire code and bylaw. Please contact your local fire department and bylaw officer for up to date information.



Easy tips keep your property *safe*.



WHEN YOU'RE AT HOME

It's easy to let your guard down a little when you're at home, but keep these tips in mind to keep your property safer:

- When in your backyard, lock your front door and vice versa.
- Keep your doors locked even when you're inside the house.
- Keep blinds and curtains closed at night so people can't see into your home.

WHEN YOU'RE NOT AT HOME

If you're away from home (on vacation, for example), make it look like someone's still there:

- Arrange to have mail and newspaper delivery stopped at least one day before you leave.
- Arrange to have the grass cut, the leaves raked or the snow shoveled as needed.
- Use timers on a few lamps in rooms where the light will be seen; also put a radio on a timer.
- Ask a trusted neighbour to check inside and outside the house every few days, pick up items or flyers that were delivered, and park in your driveway or parking spot sometimes.
- If the overhead garage door has roller and track, install a lock in the track to block the roller; disconnect your automatic garage door opener before you leave.
- Don't leave a message on your answering service that says you're away. Turn down the ringer on your phone so that people outside can't hear it ringing.

KEEP YOUR GARAGE SAFE

Garages are a favorite target for burglars:

- Put curtains or blinds in your garage windows so people can't check for items to steal or your car.
- The door between your house and an attached garage should swing in, toward the garage interior.
- Exterior doors should be solid core steel or wood, have a deadbolt lock and reinforced strike plates.
- Keep your garage doors closed and locked at all times even when you're at home including the door between your home and an attached garage.
- Install motion-sensor or light-sensitive lights near your garage to keep the area lit at night.
- Be sure that the overhead door closes completely after you drive into or out of the garage.
- If possible, have a remote control garage door opener installed, to let you stay in your locked vehicle until you're inside your locked garage. Leave headlights on until you're in the garage.
- Never leave your car running with the overhead door closed, as this can produce dangerous carbon monoxide fumes.

MORE SAFETY MEASURES

Consider having a monitored alarm system installed in your home and garage to let you know about break-ins and fire.

REPORT SUSPICIOUS ACTIVITIES TO POLICE AT 403-266-1234

- Unusual noises, such as someone yelling for help.
- Vehicles or strangers moving randomly through the neighbourhood or looking into homes or vehicles.
- A stranger sitting in a vehicle or stopping to talk to a child.
- Furniture being removed from a home when the owners are on vacation or at work.
- Report abandoned vehicles by calling the Calgary Parking Authority at 403-537-7100.
- Unusual activities of pets, such as a normally quiet dog who's barking a lot.
- Someone who's going door to door soliciting but won't provide proper identification.
- Homes with open doors, front doors with keys left in the locks, or a neighbour's vehicle with the trunk left open. In most situations, a simple call to your neighbour will let them know that there's a problem if it doesn't, call police.

IF SOMEONE BREAKS IN

Do not enter the house. Use a cell phone or neighbour's phone to call the police at 9-1-1. Watch your house until the police arrive.

KEEP YOUR VEHICLE SAFE

- Park in well-lit areas close to buildings.
- Avoid deserted areas in parking lots.
- Lock all vehicle doors and close all windows.
- Take packages or valuables with you; if you have to leave them in the vehicle, place them in the trunk before you park at your final destination (so that criminals watching parking lots don't see you place packages in the trunk before you walk away from your vehicle.)
- Order the anti-theft devices that are available for many vehicles. This can save you worry and may reduce your insurance premiums.
- Don't hide spare keys most hiding places that you can think of are also known by criminals. Keep spare keys in your purse or wallet, or with a trusted friend or neighbour.
- Remove all documents that identify you or your address. Keep your insurance, registration and driver's licence with you, not in your glove box. If your vehicle is stolen, call police immediately and provide the licence plate number, vehicle identification number (VIN), year, make, model, colour and distinguishing marks.

Easy tips to keep your property safe