

BURGLARY PREVENTION CHECKLIST FOR HOMES

This checklist was designed to help you make a security survey of your own home.

The first purpose of a home security inspection is to identify features in your home or daily routines of your family which might make your home an easy target for a burglar.

The security inspection should begin at your front door, include an inspection of all your doors and windows, locks, lights and landscaping. Each question on the checklist which you answer with an "x" or a check mark, the second column indicates a security weakness or hazard which requires your attention.

DOORS

- | | | |
|----|--|------------|
| 1 | Are all outside doors in the house of metal or solid wood construction? | Yes ___ No |
| 2 | Are door frames strong enough and tight enough to prevent forcing or spreading? | Yes ___ No |
| 3 | Are door hinges protected from removal from the outside? | Yes ___ No |
| 4 | Are there windows in any door or within 40 inches of the locks? | Yes ___ No |
| 5 | Are all door locks adequate and in good repair? | Yes ___ No |
| 6 | Are strikes and strike plates adequate and properly installed? | Yes ___ No |
| 7 | Can the locking mechanism be reached through a mail slot, delivery port or pet entrance at the door? | Yes ___ No |
| 8 | Is there a screen or storm door with an adequate lock? | Yes ___ No |
| 9 | Are all entrances lighted with at least a 40 watt light? | Yes ___ No |
| 10 | Can front entrances be observed from the street or public area? | Yes ___ No |

- 11 Does the porch or landscaping offer concealment from view from the street or public area? Yes ___ No ___
- 12 If there is a sliding glass door, is the sliding panel secured from being lifted out of its track? Yes ___ No ___
- 13 Is the "charley-bar" or a key operated auxiliary lock used on sliding glass doors? Yes ___ No ___

ENTRANCES FROM GARAGE AND BASEMENT

- 14 Are all entrances to the living quarters from a garage or basement of metal or solid wood construction? Yes ___ No ___
- 15 Does the door from the garage to the living quarters have locks adequate for exterior entrances? Yes ___ No ___
- 16 Does the door from the basement to the living quarters have an adequate lock operated from the living quarters side? Yes ___ No ___

WINDOWS

- 17 Do all windows have adequate locks in operating condition? Yes ___ No ___
- 18 Do windows have screens or storm windows that lock from the inside? Yes ___ No ___
- 19 Do any windows open into areas that may be hazardous or offer special risk to burglary? Yes ___ No ___
- 20 Do windows that open into hazardous areas have security screens or grills? Yes ___ No ___
- 21 Are exterior areas of windows free from concealing structure or landscaping? Yes ___ No ___
- 22 Is the exterior adequately lighted at all window areas? Yes ___ No ___
- 23 Are trees and shrubbery kept trimmed back from upper floor windows? Yes ___ No ___
- 24 Are ladders kept outside the house where they are not accessible? Yes ___ No ___

BASEMENT DOORS AND WINDOWS

- 25 Is there a door from the outside to the basement? Yes ___ No ___
- 26 If so, is that door adequately secure for an exterior door? Yes ___ No ___
- 27 Is the outside basement entrance lighted by an exterior light of at least 40 watts? Yes ___ No ___
- 28 Is the outside basement door concealed from the street or neighbors? Yes ___ No ___
- 29 Are all basement windows adequately secured against entrance? Yes ___ No ___

GARAGE DOORS AND WINDOWS

- 30 Is the automobile entrance door to the garage equipped with an adequate locking device? Yes ___ No ___
- 31 Is the garage door kept closed and locked at all times? Yes ___ No ___
- 32 Are the garage windows secured adequately for ground floor windows? Yes ___ No ___
- 33 Is the outside utility entrance to the garage as secure as required for any ground floor entrance? Yes ___ No ___
- 34 Are tools and ladders kept in the garage? Yes ___ No ___
- 35 Are all garage doors lighted on the outside by at least a 40 watt light? Yes ___ No ___

1. Are all outside doors made of metal or solid core wood? Yes ___ No
2. Are door frames strong enough to prevent forcing or spreading? Yes ___ No
3. Are door hinges protected from removal from the outside? Yes ___ No
4. Are there windows in any door or within 40 inches of the locks? Yes ___ No
5. Are all door locks adequate and in good repair (min. 1-in throw bolt)? Yes ___ No
6. Are strikes and strike plates adequate and properly installed? Yes ___ No
7. Can the locking mechanism be reached through a mail slot, delivery port or entrance at the door? Yes ___ No
8. Is there a screen or storm door with an adequate lock? Yes ___ No
9. Are all entrances lighted with at least a 40 watt bulb? Yes ___ No
10. Can front entrances be observed from the street or public area? Yes ___ No
11. Does the porch or landscaping offer concealment from view from the street or public area? Yes ___ No
12. If there is a sliding glass door, is the sliding panel secured from being lifted out of its track? Yes ___ No
13. Is the "Charley-Bar" or a key operated auxiliary lock used on sliding glass doors? Yes ___ No

Entrance From Garage And/Or Basement

14. Are all entrances to the living quarters from a garage or basement of metal or solid wood core construction? Yes ___ No
15. Does the door from the garage to the living quarters have locks adequate for exterior entrances? Yes ___ No
16. Does the door from the basement to the living quarters have an adequate lock operated from the living quarters side? Yes ___ No

Windows

17. Do all the windows have adequate locks in operating condition? Yes ___ No
18. Do windows have screens or storm windows that lock from the inside? Yes ___ No
19. Do any windows open into areas that may be hazardous or

20. Do windows that open into hazardous areas have security screens or grills? Yes ___ No ___
21. Are exterior areas of windows free from concealing structures or landscaping? Yes ___ No ___
22. Is the exterior adequately lighted at all window areas? Yes ___ No ___
23. Are trees and shrubbery kept trimmed back from upper floor windows? Yes ___ No ___
24. Are ladders kept inside the home or other locked structure where they are not accessible to burglars? Yes ___ No ___

Basement Doors and Windows

25. Is there a door from the outside to the basement? Yes ___ No ___
26. If so, is that door adequately secure for an exterior door? Yes ___ No ___
27. Is the outside basement entrance lighted by an exterior light of at least 40 watts? Yes ___ No ___
28. Is the outside basement door visible from the street or neighbors? Yes ___ No ___
29. Are all basement windows adequately secured against entrance? Yes ___ No ___

Garage Doors and Windows

30. Is the automobile entrance door to the garage equipped with an adequate locking device? Yes ___ No ___
31. Is the garage door kept closed and locked at all times? Yes ___ No ___
32. Are the garage windows secured adequately for ground floor windows? Yes ___ No ___
33. Is the outside utility entrance to the garage as secure as required for any ground floor entrance? Yes ___ No ___
34. Are tools and ladders kept in the garage? Yes ___ No ___
35. Are all garage doors lighted on the outside by at least a 40 watt light? Yes ___ No ___

And As a BONUS Question: Did you know that...