

BRUCE BLAKEMAN
County Executive



PATRICK J. RYDER
Commissioner of Police

Safety Tips from the Nassau County Police Department



Burglary Prevention

- If you have an alarm, be sure to set it. Consider installing an alarm system, if you don't have one.
- Gifts and valuables should be kept out of sight, away from windows.
- Do not publicize that you will be out of town on the internet.
- Leave your lights on when you leave the house.
- Lock all doors and windows when you leave, even if it's just for a few minutes.
- Ask a neighbor to watch your home if you'll be away.

Thefts from Vehicles

- Park in well-lit areas.
- LOCK YOUR VEHICLE and do not leave it running unattended.
- Do not leave a GPS or any other valuables visible in the vehicle. Hide packages and shopping bags in the trunk.
- Keep keys in your hand when walking to your car or home.

Shopping Tips

- Be alert and aware of your surroundings at ALL times.
- Avoid carrying large amounts of cash. Be sure your purse or wallet is secured at all times.
- Shopping with kids? Teach them to go to a store clerk or security guard if you get separated.

Shopping Online

- Shop only on secure websites.
- Do not respond to emails asking you for personal or credit card information.
- Check your credit card and bank statements regularly.

Take Inventory

- Make time to update or create a home inventory.
- Take photos or make a video of valuable items with descriptions and serial numbers.

Be Alert! If you see something, say something!

**Call 911 for emergencies or crimes in progress
Crime Stoppers 1-800-244-TIPS**

**"MAKE YOUR HOME SECURE:
Burglary Prevention Checklist"**
offers general tips and suggestions.

In an emergency, dial 911.

LAURA CURRAN
COUNTY EXECUTIVE



PATRICK J. RYDER
COMMISSIONER

www.police.nassaucountyny.gov

**Public
Advisory**
0112

MAKE YOUR HOME SECURE

Burglary Prevention Checklist

Burglary is a major crime. It is a significant threat to all homeowners. Statistics show that most burglaries occur in single home residences, but multi-family dwellings such as condominiums and apartment buildings are also at risk.

Having a burglar alarm is a good deterrent but it is not enough. You can reduce the risk of being the victim of a burglary by using the "Burglary Prevention Checklist" inside.



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Burglary Prevention Checklist

Secure the *outside* of your home.

- ☐ Lock doors and windows when leaving the house.
- ☐ Lock rear gates when not in use.
- ☐ Do not let people know you are not home by posting on the Internet or on voicemail.
- ☐ Prune overgrown shrubbery that hides windows and doors.
- ☐ Make alarm stickers visible on doors and windows; they should be easily seen from the street and sidewalk.
- ☐ Keep a car in the driveway, if possible.
- ☐ Give the appearance that you own a guard dog. Place a big dog bowl or dog chain on your property.
- ☐ Do not leave packages in the doorway all day; arrange for a delivery time when you or a neighbor can pick them up.
- ☐ Do not leave garbage cans at the curb all day; if you cannot stay home, use plastic bags instead of garbage cans.

Help prevent your home from becoming a target.
Walk around your home and do a thorough security inspection.

Burglary Prevention Checklist *(cont'd)*

Secure *points of entry* into your home.

- ☐ If possible, do not use an outside mailbox. Insert a mail slot in the front door or garage.
- ☐ Install outside motion detection lights at the corners of your home. Make sure they are high enough so that an intruder is unable to unscrew the bulbs.
- ☐ Do not have a front door with side glass panels. It is easy for an intruder to break the glass, reach inside and unlock the door.
- ☐ Have outside doors of solid core or metal clad; steel doors and frames are the most secure while hollow doors with wood frames are easily kicked in.
- ☐ Use dead bolts with a one-inch throw since the mechanism is difficult to pry or jimmy open.
- ☐ Ensure that sliding glass doors and windows have metal pins or a metal bar installed so that they can not be pried open.
- ☐ Set inside lights on timers to turn on at dusk.
- ☐ Do not place valuables in bureau drawers in the master bedroom. This is the first place a burglar looks. Lock valuables in the attic or basement.
- ☐ Mark valuables with your driver's license number to make them easy to trace. Take pictures of them.
- ☐ Even if you have an alarm system, be alert when entering or leaving your home. If you notice someone or something suspicious, call 911 immediately.