

Alexandria Police Department

CRIME PREVENTION BULLETIN

HOME SECURITY AND SAFETY CHECKLIST

The questions on this form are answered "Yes" or "No". Any questions answered with a "No" response may alert you to areas that could be improved upon. Please keep in mind that these concepts and ideas are for information only. Your unique circumstances and local building codes must be considered.

Perimeter Security

- | Yes | No | Doors |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Do all your exterior doors have a good quality deadbolt lock with no less than a 1" throw? |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Are all latch strike-plates on your exterior doors secured with at least a 3" screw? |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Do all of your exterior doors without glass have a wide-angle door viewer installed to help identify the person on the other side of the door? |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Do the exterior doors having glass within 3 feet of the lock have a double cylinder deadbolt? Consider egress safety concerns carefully if this type of lock is chosen. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Are all exterior doors constructed of a solid material? |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Do you have locking storm doors? |

Sliding Glass Doors

- | | | |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Do all of the sliding glass doors have at least one of the following supplementary security devices? <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Track lock• Insertion pin lock• Hinged door bar• Metal or wood dowel in track |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Do your auxiliary locks prevent the door from being lifted out of its track? |

Garage Doors

- If your overhead garage door is equipped with an automatic opener, does it use a “rolling code” to foil “code grabbers”?
- If your overhead garage door is not equipped with an automatic opener, does it have a good-quality locking mechanism?
- Does your exterior service door, and the door from the garage into your home, have quality deadbolts? Are they always used?
- Do you always close your overhead garage door, even when you are home?

Windows

- Are all your windows secured with good quality sash locks?
- Are your windows additionally secured by pins or nails?
- Have your auxiliary window locks been installed to allow ventilation while maintaining security?
- If your windows are double hung, are both sashes secured when opened for ventilation?

Exterior Lighting

- Is your front entrance lit well enough to enable you to identify visitors at night?
- Are all other entrances illuminated well?
- Do floodlights or other type of area illumination cover all exterior sections of your home or property?
- Do motion sensors control your exterior lighting?

Landscaping

- Are house numbers placed in a conspicuous place that is easily seen from the roadway by first responders?
- Are all your bushes, trees and shrubs trimmed to eliminate areas for a person to hide near your doors and windows?

- Have tree limbs been trimmed to prevent access to upper floor windows or balconies?
- Is all outdoor foliage trimmed to prevent obstruction of exterior lighting?

Exterior Entries and Possessions

- Are all your gates locked with a quality, weatherproof padlock?
- Are all sheds or outbuildings secured with a quality weatherproof padlock?
- Are all valuables stored outside (bikes, ladders, lawn mowers, etc) secured to a fixed, immovable object?

Swimming Pool Safety

- Are all exterior doors or gates leading to your pool area equipped with an alarm to indicate someone has entered that area?
- If your pool area has a secondary fence, are the gates secured with a gate lock or padlock?
- Is your pool area or property line surrounded by at least a 6ft high fence?
- Is every member of your household trained in CPR?
- Is a throw line, throw bag or flotation rescue device available and clearly marked?

Interior Security

Valuables

- Have all valuable items been photographed, and recorded for make, model and serial number?
- Are valuable coins, jewelry or other small items hidden away from bedrooms, offices, and other "traditional" hiding places, or can they be stored in a security safe?

- Are computer files backed up and stored away from the computer and other electronics?
- Do you break down or conceal empty boxes of expensive items (T V, stereo, game systems, etc) when placed curbside for trash pickup?

While You Are Away

- Do you have different lights in your home set up on automatic timers?
- Do you have a working alarm system?
- Do you always remember to arm the alarm before you leave?
- Did you know that your alarm systems should be armed when you will be in your backyard for any length of time?
- Do you discontinue mail and newspaper service when away from home on vacation or business?
- Do you arrange for a friend or neighbor to come by and check on your home when you plan on being away several days or longer?
- Does your telephone answering machine avoid announcing that you are out of town?
- Do you limit your social networking comments about being on vacation?
- Have you arranged for grass cutting, snow removal, and other services while out of town?
- Did you know that you can call the Lafayette Police Department and request a house check by officers while you are away?

Firearm Safety

- Are all guns safely stored in a locked box, safe, or vault?
- Are all guns stored separately from the ammunition?
- Are guns that are intended for home protection equipped with a trigger guard lock?
- Have all members of your household been trained to treat every gun as though it were loaded?

Fire and Carbon Monoxide

- Do you have a smoke detector in each of the following areas?
- Bedrooms or hallway just outside the bedrooms
 - Near family room and kitchen
 - Top of any stairway
 - Garage and/or utility rooms
- Are all smoke detectors hard wired or linked so if one goes off, they all go off?
- Are there carbon monoxide detectors in the same areas as your smoke detectors? Is there an additional carbon monoxide detector near your furnace or hot water heater?
- Are there ABC (multi use) type fire extinguishers in your kitchen, garage and basement?
- Do all members of your household know exactly what to do in case of a fire or other emergency?
- Do second story bedrooms have fire escape ladders?
- Do you test your smoke detectors once a month?
- Do you replace the batteries in your smoke detectors and carbon monoxide detectors twice a year? (Hint: Do this when changing clocks from daylight savings)
- Are all flammables stored in original, marked containers away from sources of heat or flame?
- Are all your valuable documents and possessions stored in a fire-rated safe?