
Security Checklist

Use this checklist as a guide to ensure that your home and your loved ones are protected. All of the items on the list may not apply in your situation. For example, you may not own a car.

Stay safe, and remember to be AWARE of your surroundings, IDENTIFY any potential threats, and REACT accordingly.

- Make sure you have adequate lighting that uses motion sensors all around the outside of your home.
- Have a monitored alarm system installed or install alarm devices on doors, windows or other areas where intruders might try to enter your home.
- Set alarms when leaving your home, and at night.
- During the day, set alarms if needed to stay safe & keep children safe.
- Put alarm signs in your yard or other signs that may deter criminals from your home.
- Have a minimum of 2 preferably 3 fire extinguishers (One for the garage).
- Make sure the front door has a peephole or window, to see who is there before you open the door.
- Consider making a video of your home & property for insurance purposes.
- Teach all adults and older children that are ready what to do in an emergency.
- Teach adults and all children to be cautious of strangers.
- Instruct children not to open any door for anyone.
- Remember, a badge is not enough to trust a stranger at your door.
- Ask to see an ID, or call to verify, to make sure repair and utility workers are legitimate.
- Make sure everyone in the household knows how to call for help.
- Lock away all firearms from children and separate ammunition as needed.
- Use safety locks on all firearms if they are not in a safe.
- Use fire proof/water proof safes to store any dangerous items such as firearms as well as important documents and personal items.
- Use deadbolt bolt locks on doors, and install inside keyed locks where there is glass near the locks.
- Never leave a spare key outside your home.
- Give extra keys to family members or trusted neighbors.
- Do not give anyone the opportunity to duplicate your keys.
- Place locks on property inside and out such as a storage shed, gates to the backyard, breaker box if outside or any other structure that can be broken into.
- Always lock your car doors if it is kept outside. This is very important.
- Never leave the garage door opener in a car parked outside the garage.
- Do not leave valuables in cars especially if not in the garage.
- Use security steps outlined in this book if traveling away from your city or running

local errands, especially if you are alone.

- When going to stores or other places, try to plan your outings with another person.
- Let someone know where you are going and when you will return.
- Take your cell phone with you and make sure it's charged.
- Plan your vacations well before leaving, and let someone you trust know your itinerary.
- Try not to make stops at night in remote locations.
- Consider registering with ID theft company or with your trusted credit card companies that protect ID theft and alert you of any change in your credit status.
- Keep all credit information stored safely in the event there is a break-in of your home. (Make a copy of all your credit cards, front and back.)
- Shred all personal identification information before placing in trash
- Never throw away old prescription bottles unless you remove the label or redact it to prevent anyone from getting your information.
- Keep your receipts from large purchases, they'll come in handy if you have to make an insurance claim.
- Label your large valuables with a permanent marker. (You can get one from your local police or authorities).
- Make sure the landscaping around your home doesn't provide opportunities for concealment.
- Get together with neighbors and set up a system for alerting one another in case of an emergency.
- Avoid walking alone, especially at night or in less—populated areas.
- Dress in clothing that allows freedom of movement.
- Walk purposefully, in an alert and confident manner.
- Walk on the outside of the sidewalk, facing traffic.
- Check routes to your destination before leaving, so you do not appear lost.
- Take care to be especially watchful at ATMs.
- Have your keys ready when you approach your vehicle or home.
- Keep alert for suspicious behavior, and keep at least two arm lengths between yourself and strangers.
- Keep your car in good working condition.
- Carry emergency supplies in your vehicle.
- Keep your gas tank at least half full.
- When driving, keep doors locked, and windows rolled up.
- Park your car in well-lighted areas or parking garages if possible.
- Don't leave valuables in plain sight in your vehicle.
- Lock your car when you leave it.
- Check the interior of the car before unlocking it and getting in.
- Stay in your vehicle if it breaks down or if you are involved in a minor crash or bumped intentionally, and call 9-1-1.
- When stopped at a light or stop sign, stop far enough behind the car in front to allow room to maneuver in case of an emergency.