

## Quick Safety Review

Lock your doors and windows even if you are home or going away for just a few minutes. Too often criminals get into homes through an unlocked window or door.

Always acknowledge a caller at your door. Never open a door for strangers. Use a peephole or window to see who is at the door. Ask questions and for identification before opening the door.

Do not leave messages on your door or answering machine. This includes leaving your personal information, whether you will be home or on vacation or if you live alone.

Always use your alarm. If you do not have an alarm, think about investing in one. Place decals on your windows and in your yard.

Do not respond to solicitation whether by computer, phone or in person. Never give out personal information.

Talk with kids about safety. Include topics such as pool safety, drugs and alcohol, stranger awareness, and computer safety.

## Final Note

Common Sense can prevent most problems before they occur.

Stay Alert. With busy schedules, time constraints, and routines, we often become complacent. By utilizing these simple tactics, you can reduce your chances at becoming a victim.

If you see a crime being committed or you find someone or something to be suspicious, call the police. Do not shrug it off thinking someone else may call.

Do not be afraid to call the police. Some victims have stated that they felt calling the police would be wasting their time. If you feel unsafe please call the police for we are here to help you.

Consider enrolling in a situational and defensive training program.

The Fort Lauderdale Police Department continues to offer free security surveys for residences or businesses. Presentations are also available.

Emergency: 911  
Non Emergency: 954-828-5700

# Fort Lauderdale Police Department



# Crime Prevention for Your Home

Presented by  
Fort Lauderdale Police Department  
Crime Prevention Unit  
954-828-6421  
954-828-4964

## Exterior

Simple landscaping and design concepts can improve security for your home.

Bushes should be trimmed lower than three feet or below windows.

Tree branches should be trimmed higher than six feet.

Landscaping should not create blind spots or hiding places.

Walkways and landscaping should 'direct' visitors to the proper entrance and away from private areas.

All doorways, walkways, and garage entry points should be well lit. Landscaping should not hinder visibility to these areas.

Address numbers should be placed in obvious places, not hidden by landscaping, and should be well lit during night hours.

Motion sensor lighting can be used alongside bedroom areas, front entry ways, and strategically placed around other zones of the home.

Look out for one another. Talk with neighbors about suspicious activity in your neighborhood. Do not be afraid to call the police for your neighbor if something or someone seems suspicious.

## Doors

All exterior doors should be constructed of steel or aluminum alloy, solid-core hardwood or be impact resistant. All glass doors should have impact resistant glass installed.

Double doors should be secured with heavy-duty, multiple point, 3" long flush bolts.

All exterior doors should have a secondary deadbolt lock

Sliding glass doors can be secured by using dowels placed in the interior tracks, pin locks, kick plates, and/or auxiliary locks.

View finders should be installed in front doors to allow 180 degree view.

## Garage

Secure side doors and windows just like the other areas of your home.

Secure and lock garage doors when you are not in or within visible sight of the garage.

Ensure the garage has proper lighting if used as an entrance into the home.

## Alarm Systems

If you have an alarm system, use it.

Speak with your alarm company about motion sensor placement, cellular back-up for monitoring alarm, and have an updated call out response list.

## Windows

Installing impact resistant glass or protective covering can help reduce windows being smashed.

Auxiliary locking systems can help prevent windows from being pried open.

Use curtains or blinds to keep persons from looking into your home.

## Interior

Secure all small items such as jewelry, cell phones, cash, laptop computers, etc. in uncommon places.

Mark property and record serial numbers. Know if and how to use GPS systems installed in your computers and cellphones.