

DON'T BE A VICTIM

How do you fight crime at home?

Common Sense
Vigilance
Consistency

The FBI estimates that between 30—40% of all burglaries are unforced entries.



References

<http://www.scnus.org/page.aspx?id=101237>

http://www.thisoldhouse.com/toh/photos/0,,20213859_20484818,00.html

<http://www2.fbi.gov/ucr/nibrs/manuals/v1all.pdf>



Top Ten Things a Homeowner Can Do to Protect Their Family and Property

Sherwood Forest Citizens' Association

National Burglary Statistics

Front door break-ins—34%,
First-floor windows—23%,
Side entry-sliding glass doors—22%
Garages—9%
Basements—4%
Second floor windows-2%.

Sherwood Forest Citizens' Association

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Top Ten Things a Homeowner Can Do to Protect Their Family and Property

1 Lock your doors, windows at all times. Use supplemental window locks, don't forget air conditioning units, patio door locks and side-mounted indoor locks for garage doors. Have at least a one and half inch double cylinder deadbolt with extended strike plate and three inch screws. Do not leave a spare key out—leave with neighbor.

2 Don't leave invitations for thieves such as bicycles, lawnmowers, new purchase boxes, etc. visible. Close window coverings to stop window shopping. Secure your valuables— most burglars go straight for the master bedroom.

3 Use timers on indoor lights, music, and TVs. Use motion sensors on outdoor lights or better—leave on.

4 Trim or replace tall shrubs – criminals like to hide out of sight – Practice Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design – CPTED Security

- Keep entryways to your home visible to prevent people from being able to sneak up.
- Use landscape and design to define your territorial space.

- Add hindrances to easy access – plant holly bushes or other thorny shrubs.
- Target hardening – structural security, deadbolts, double-paned windows.

5 Have Security Patrol check your home when you are on vacation. Don't leave signs of an empty house, mail, newspapers, over grown lawns. Alert neighbors when you are outof-town.

6 Neighborhood Watch – know your neighbors – close-knit neighborhoods report fewer break-ins.

7 Stay vigilant—Never open your door to unknown persons! Install peephole. Utilize alarm on key fob to frighten suspicious persons.

8 Dogs are a deterrent. Even a “Beware of Dog” sign is an effective deterrent. Vehicles

9 Always lock, even in your carport—close windows and sunroof. Do not leave valuables in plain view. Do not leave keys in vehicle. Do not leave garage opener in view. Do not move valuables to trunk in plain view. Be aware before you exit vehicle. Utilize alarm on key fob to frighten suspicious persons.

Alarm Systems are the most effective

10 security investment a homeowner can make. They can range from a very basic system to a gold standard system with cameras. The Golden Rule with any alarm system is to “ARM IT” and keep it armed at all times even when you are home.

The most effective alarm systems have the following:

- Outside siren
- 24 hour monitoring
- Panic buttons
- Door and window coverage
- Glass breakage sensors
- Motion sensors
- Cameras