



## DON'T INVITE BURGLARS IN....

### Make your home look occupied...and make it difficult to break in.

1. Lock all outside doors before you leave or go to bed.
2. Lock all windows.
3. Leave lights on when you go out. A radio playing is also a good burglar deterrent. If you're going to be away any length of time, connect some lamps to automatic timers so your lights turn on at dusk and go off at bedtime.
4. Keep your garage door closed and locked...an empty garage is a good sign that no one is at home.
5. Don't allow daily deliveries to accumulate when you're gone. Cancel them in person or by phone or ask your neighbors to take in mail, newspapers and advertising circulars. Never leave notes that can tip off burglars to your plans.
6. Arrange to have your lawn cut in summer and walks shoveled in winter if you're going to be away for an extended period of time.

### Burglary is everyone's problem

Burglary is a serious crime to which all of us are vulnerable...city or rural, high or low income, homeowner or apartment dweller. And the chances of being burglarized are increasing every year. According to FBI statistics, there's a residential burglary once every 15 seconds.

Burglar is probably the most preventable of crimes. The problem is that many of us, through our own carelessness, make it easier for burglars to carry out their work. In addition, many people don't worry about burglary because their insurance covers theft losses. But insurance can never replace keepsakes or priceless family heirlooms. And let's not forget about family security...not all burglars are just thieves. Remember, too, that the easier people make it for burglars, the higher insurance rates must be. If everyone would take a few simple precautions, the number of residential burglaries could be significantly reduced. There's no better way for you to give your local law enforcement agencies the support they deserve.

### Some things you should know about locks...



#### Doors

If you can clock an outside door by pushing in a doorknob button and closing it, burglars can open it quickly with plastic objects like credit cards. You can make things tough for burglars by using deadbolt locks. Your local locksmith is the man to see for good advice on force and pick-resistant locks. Remember, it's important to get good locks for all your outside doors, not just the main entrance. If a burglar has trouble with one door lock, he will often check the other doors for an easier way to get in.



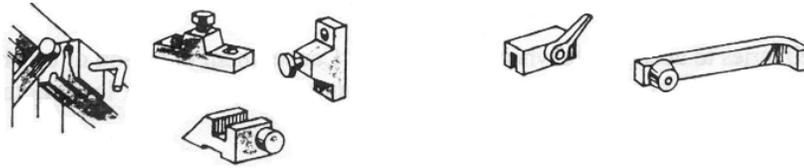
#### Sliding Glass Doors

...are a favorite means of entry for burglars. These doors are often easy to jimmy open and do not have adequate locks. Your local locksmith has special locks for sliding glass doors that can give you much better security than those usually built into the doors.



## Windows

Locking windows is just as important as locking doors. The latches on double-hung windows can be jimmyed open. You can lock them securely by sliding bolts into holes drilled through the bottom and into the top frame. Casement windows can be made more secure by replacing the lever locks with key-lockable devices, which you can get at hardware stores and locksmiths. **However, if you lock your window, be sure that they can be opened quickly from the inside in case of fire.**



## **Other precautions you should take...**

- 1) Contact your local police department and have a trained officer inspect your home and make suggestions on how to make it more secure.
- 2) Lower the bell on your telephone so the ringing can't be heard outside.
- 3) Never leave keys under flowerpots, doormats; inside unlocked mailboxes or in other "secret" hiding places...burglars know them all.
- 4) If you're going on vacation...
  - a) Notify the police and tell them how long you'll be gone, who has a key to your home and where you can be reached.
  - b) Ask your neighbors to keep an eye on your house and leave them a key so your home can be periodically inspected. Also, ask them to vary the positions of shades and blinds from day to day.
  - c) Don't publicize your traveling plans in the local newspaper and don't tell strangers about them.
- 5) Keep a detailed inventory of all your personal possessions. Include a description of the time, date of purchase, original value and any serial numbers. Save the sales receipts for your more valuable belongings and keep them with your inventory list. Give your agent a copy of your list and keep an additional one in a safe place outside your home, such as a safety deposit box. It's a good idea to make a photographic record of your belongings, especially valuable ones like antiques.
- 6) Be a good neighbor...if you notice anything suspicious in your neighborhood, call the police immediately.