



Medina Township Police Department

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David L. Arbogast, Chief of Police

Residential Crime Prevention Tips

The Medina Township Police Department would like to remind residents of tips they can use to reduce becoming a victim of a burglary to your home. There are many things you can do to protect your home from crime - and give yourself some peace of mind!

**BURGLARY
PREVENTION**

Burglary Prevention Tips While At Home

Your home is your castle - don't let it be a target for criminals. Most burglars look for easy targets.

- ✓ Always keep your doors locked - even when you're home. This includes your vehicles.
- ✓ Install sturdy doors, door frames and hardware.
- ✓ Use deadbolt locks.
- ✓ Secure sliding glass doors by placing a broomstick or steel rod in the track.
- ✓ Keep the area around your house well lit. This will discourage criminals.
- ✓ Position outdoor lights carefully. Put them out of reach so bulbs can't be easily broken or unscrewed. Aim lights at garage and shed doors, entryways and ground level windows.
- ✓ Consider motion sensor floodlights and photoelectric lights that automatically turn on at dusk and off at dawn.
- ✓ Keep plants trimmed - overgrown bushes can cover windows and doorways, giving burglars a hiding place.
- ✓ Consider an alarm system. It can offer extra protection, especially for people who live alone, are away often or have lots of valuables. Please remember however - alarms can give you a false sense of security. They are meant to be used with other security measures, not in place of them.
- ✓ Store ladders, tools and any other outside objects that can be used to assist in home entry in a locked shed or garage.
- ✓ Don't automatically open your door when someone knocks. Use your peephole. Ask service people to slip their identification under the door or call their office to double-check if you are not expecting them.
- ✓ Don't allow strangers into your home, even if they are hurt or say they need help. Keep the door locked and call the police for them.
- ✓ Find good hiding places in your home for your valuables, do not use typical places that are easily accessed.
- ✓ Limit the amount of cash you keep in your home and store it in a creative hiding place.
- ✓ Keep an inventory of your valuable possessions including a description of items, serial numbers, a photograph or video of those valuables, heirlooms and antiques etc.
- ✓ Be an alert homeowner and neighbor. If you see a stranger on a neighbor's property, or if you see a vehicle you don't recognize backed up in a neighbor's driveway or parked in an alley, don't hesitate to call the police.

