



## How to Secure Your Home

66% of all burglaries occur in residential homes. Millions of households lose valuable possessions every year. They have to deal not only with the financial loss but with the shock associated with burglary. These are all important reasons why you need to secure your home in an effective and reliable way. Use some essential advice on how to do it.

### Securing Doors and Windows

**Door lock replacement** - It pays off to invest in more secure and advanced locks for the doors of your house. This is particularly important if you have just bought an existing property or you have moved into a property which you have rented to tenants. This is because previous inhabitants may still have keys and this will put you and your family and assets at much higher risk.

**Door lockset selection** - The lockset you choose must be extremely difficult to open without the original keys. It is best if it requires a key to be unlocked from the inside as well as from the outside. It must be made from a durable material. It must come from a reputable manufacturer.

**Lock installation** - It is essential for the lockset to be installed at least 40 inches away from surrounding windows. This is necessary to ensure that no intruder can break the glass, reach a key and open the door from the inside. If this is not possible due to house structure or door specifics, then the surrounding windows should get reinforced glass or bars.

**Window lock installation** - This is a recommended option for all windows on the ground floor of a property. If there is a risk of burglars gaining access to windows on higher floors, they should be locked as well.

**Locking and key storage** - You need to confirm that all windows and doors including the garage doors are locked before you leave the house. You must never hide keys outside. Even seemingly clever hiding places like fake hollow rocks can be easily identified by thieves. You must keep your house, car and garage door keys with you at all times.

### Other Security Measures

Safe installation - With a safe box, you can keep small items of value like jewelry pieces and important documents and money effectively protected from thieves. There are safe boxes of various sizes and lock system complexity.

Security system installation - You can install a security system consisting of various components depending on your needs and requirements. In addition to the traditional burglar alarm, you can set up a home surveillance system with security cameras. Another widely used option is the installation of lights with motion sensors which go up whenever an intruder enters the outdoor area of the property.

General house care - You have to ensure that the vegetation in your yard is properly maintained. There should not be any dark areas which thieves can use as hiding places and safe passages to the building. You should maintain all structures, fixtures and fittings of the house in excellent conditions. Repairs must be made timely.

Important security habits - You should never leave open doors and windows unattended even for a minute or two. You should always run a security check of the house before you go to bed. You should never share your travel plans with people who are not close to you or on the social networks.

Take all necessary measures to ensure the highest level of safety for your home.

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