

Residential Burglary Prevention

- Make sure you have your house number close to the front and back doors of your house. Dark numbers on light trim are easiest to read. During an emergency, this could save precious moments.
- Install a peep hole in your exterior doors if you do not have glass around the door. NEVER open the door to a stranger. Speak through the closed door. Call 911 if you are suspicious of a person.
- Add deadbolt locks to all of your doors, particularly those with glass near the doorknob. Remove the key from the lock. If you want to keep a key close to the door for emergencies, make sure it is not reachable from the glass panels in the door and it is not visible.
- Make sure to notify a trusted neighbor and/or family member in the area when you are going to be away. Set timers on both indoor and outdoor lights. Arrange for papers, mail and flyers to be taken in, and ask a neighbor to place some trash in your super can and wheel it to the alley on trash day. Arrange for the lawn to be mowed while you are away. These simple steps can greatly reduce your chances of becoming the next burglary victim.
- If you have alarm system on your home, use it. If you have an alarm system in your home, and you have a skylight, make sure to have the skylight wired to the alarm system. This is a way of entering homes without being detected.
- Check your surroundings before getting out of your car on your way into the house, and out of the house on your way into your vehicle. Report all suspicious persons and vehicles to Police.
- Remove all valuables from sight near windows and glass doors in your home, especially purses.
- Store expensive jewelry in safe deposit boxes, take pictures of the jewelry, get the jewelry appraised. If you store jewelry in your home, DO NOT store jewelry in the master bedroom.
- Get to know your neighbors. If you know who belongs on your block, it is easier to spot someone who does not belong. Report suspicious behavior to the police. If you suspect it is a crime, call 911. Use the words “Possible Crime in Progress.” Get involved in your community.

Montgomery County Police offers FREE home security assessments by appointments. Please contact Officer Dana Stroman, Community Services Officer – 2nd District, Montgomery County Police to schedule your appointment 240-876-1277.

Report all suspicious persons, and vehicles to Police!
Emergency 911 301-279-8000 Non-Emergency