

Door Security

- Locks with key cylinders in the doorknob are not reliable and can be easily forced;
- Install a good quality deadbolt lock on the door and a security strike plate on the door frame;
- Doors should be mounted so that the hinges and bolts are facing the inside of the house;
- Chain locks are poor security; install a wide angle viewer instead;
- If keys are lost, you should change your locks;
- Garages are a favourite target for thieves. Keep your garage door locked, even when you are at home.

Window Security

- Most windows can be pinned for security. Drill a hole through both frames and insert a double-headed nail. Consider drilling a series of holes, which allows the window to be fixed in a number of open positions. Be careful not to make the opening so large that a criminal could squeeze through or reach in and remove the nail;
- Good quality locks should be installed, and used on all windows.

Going on Vacation

- Inform a neighbour of your departure and return dates;
- Where possible, cancel or redirect your mail and deliveries. Alternatively, have a neighbour collect these items;
- Arrange to have your lawn cut and walkways cleared;
- Use timers to activate lights at various intervals.

Has Your Home Been Broken Into?

If you return home and discover that your house has been broken into, do not enter...the criminal may still be inside. Call the police immediately;

Do not touch anything or clean up until the police have arrived...you may disturb evidence.



- In an emergency: **CALL 9-1-1**
- To report a crime that is not an emergency: non-emergency # **(416) 808-2222**
- To report a crime anonymously, call Crime Stoppers at **1-800-222-8477(TIPS)**

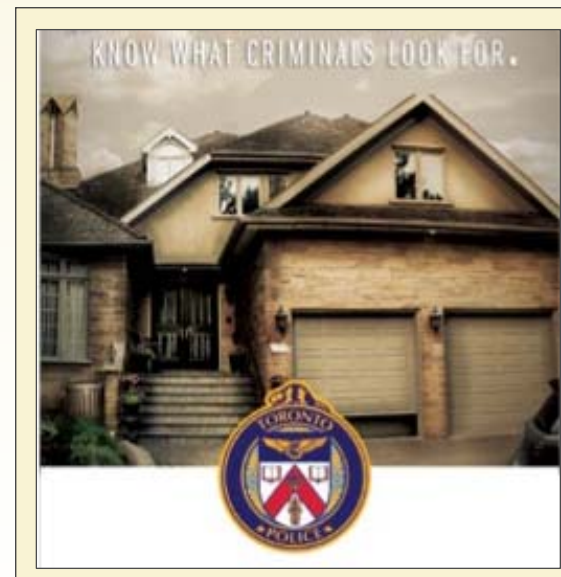


For more information regarding Home Security, or other crime prevention topics, please contact your local Crime Prevention Officer at your local Police Division.



Home Security

Close the Window of Opportunity



What can you do to protect your home?



KNOW WHAT CRIMINALS LOOK FOR.

CREATED BY THE TORONTO POLICE DIVISIONAL POLICING SUPPORT UNIT - CRIME PREVENTION SECTION IN PARTNERSHIP WITH SENECA COLLEGE



LANDSCAPING

Tall plants and bushes will reduce visibility and conceal entry into your home.

DOORS

Criminals know the difference between door styles and locks, and which ones are easiest to break into.



GARAGE

An open and/or unlocked garage door is an easy entrance for criminals to enter into the interior of the home.

WINDOWS

Bare windows are a way for criminals to see the potential reward inside and to see if the risk is worth taking.



GARBAGE

A garbage can/bin can be used as a way to elevate the criminal onto a second floor or balcony, give them insight in to what you recently purchased and the contents can help them steal your identity



VEHICLES

Criminals look for empty driveways for an indication that no one is home. Don't leave valuables in your vehicle either, take them inside your home.



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