

## HOME SECURITY

- We all have the potential to be victims of crime. Each of us can minimize the chance of our homes being victimized by using the strategies in this pamphlet
- **Break and Enter is a crime of opportunity.**
- You, as an individual and in conjunction with your neighbours, have the ability to reduce your chance of misfortune by working together.



REDUCE THE OPPORTUNITY  
FOR CRIME!

## 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 hinge bolts are facing the inside of the house.
- Chain locks are poor security; install a wide angle viewer instead.

KEY CONTROL IS IMPORTANT



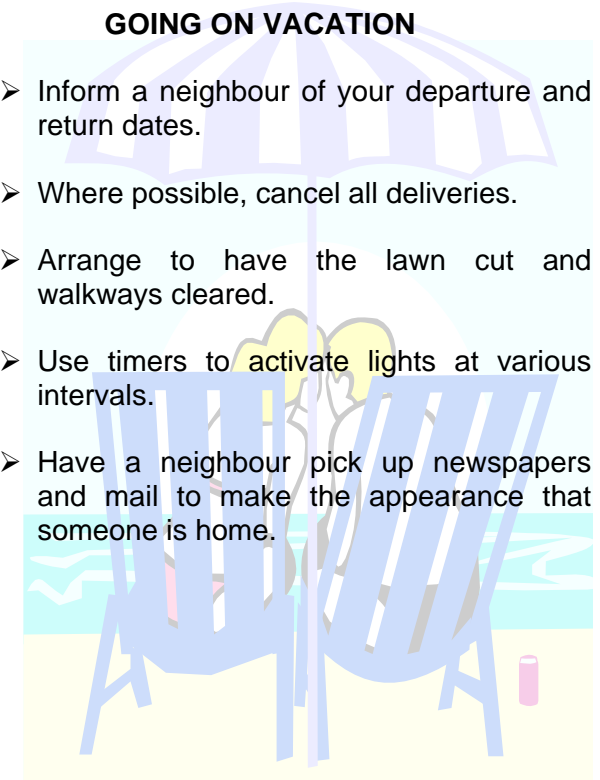
- If keys are lost, locks should be changed.
- Install a peephole viewer (180 degrees) on the entrance door.
- Outside doors and frames should be made of solid wood or steel, which are harder to force open than hollow-core doors. Frames in outside doors should fit snug (within ¼ inch) against the door
- Garages are a favourite target for burglars. Keep your garage 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 all deliveries.
- Arrange to have the lawn cut and walkways cleared.
- Use timers to activate lights at various intervals.
- Have a neighbour pick up newspapers and mail to make the appearance that someone is home.



## WHAT IF I RETURN HOME AND DISCOVER A BREAK IN?

- Do **NOT** enter, the criminal may still be inside.
- Use a neighbour's telephone and call the police.
- Do **NOT** touch anything or clean up until the police have attended. You may disturb evidence.
- Record a detailed description of any suspicious person(s).
- Note the licence number and description of any suspicious vehicle(s).

### NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

Is a program that operates on the premise that a neighbour would recognize a stranger near your house and take action.

### OPERATION IDENTIFICATION

A program designed to discourage the theft of valuables and provide a way to easily identify stolen property.

## CRIME PREVENTION TORONTO POLICE SERVICE



# EMERGENCY 9-1-1

**Police Non-Emergency**  
**416-808-2222**  
[www.torontopolice.on.ca](http://www.torontopolice.on.ca)

For more information regarding **Home Security, Neighbourhood Watch or Operation Identification**; please contact the Crime Prevention Officer at your local Police Division.

**Working Together to Prevent Crime**

SP 228-E 2007/05



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## Protect Your Home