

Residential Burglary Prevention Tips

Keep your home from being an easy target:

- Give your home the appearance that someone is there even when you are out of town.
- Always lock all doors and windows prior to leaving even when leaving for just a minute.
- Never leave a house key “hidden”: under a doormat, on a ledge, etc.
- Keep all bushes and hedges in front of your house trimmed. This makes it harder for burglars to use them as concealment to make entry into your residence.

Tips to make your house more secure:

- Exterior doors should have a “dead bolt” lock with a 1 inch throw (the part that goes into the door frame)
- Ensure good locks for all exterior doors
- Use an alarm system

Remember if you come home and see a broken window or opened door do not enter the residence. Going in and confronting a possible burglar can be a dangerous situation. Get to a safe place where the residence can still be observed and call 911.

Personal Safety

The chance that you or a member of your family will be a victim of violence is low. Violent crimes are still comparatively low and account for a very small part of recorded crime. But some people are still frightened that they, or someone close to them, will be the victim of a violent attack.

The best way to cut the risk of attack is by taking sensible precautions and making yourself a “hard target”. Most people already do this as part of their everyday lives, often without realizing it.

- Carry your purse close to your body with the clasp facing inward.
- Get your keys in your hand prior to walking to your vehicle while at a store or even at your house. Your keys can be used as a weapon if needed and also this prevents you from taking attention away from your surroundings while retrieving your keys outside.

- If you are the victim of an attack, let go of your property. If you hold on you could be injured and your personal safety is more important than retaining your property.
- If possible stay in well lit areas and do not follow routines that would make you a more vulnerable target.

Vehicle Security

- Always lock your car when entering or leaving it
- Park in well lit, busy areas
- Check the back seat before getting in
- Always lock valuables out of sight and never leave sensitive information in your vehicle
- If you stop at the store for just a minute, be sure to turn your car off, take the keys with you, and lock the doors. Do not leave your car running. It only takes a second for a thief to steal your vehicle.

For further information contact the
Clarksville Police Departments

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