



PERSONAL SECURITY

Home

- Lock patio doors and windows
- Ensure all doors have a secure lock
- Install a security system
- Trim bushes and hedges for a clear view of any suspicious activity, and don't use high fencing
- Close and lock garage doors-use an electric garage door lock
- Have a good lighting system-lights triggered by motion work well-lights on a timer develop a pattern
- Post your 911 number clearly on your house or at the end of the lane
- Post the fire department number or 911 number at each telephone
- Provide clear, concise directions to your property at each telephone for a caller to refer to in an emergency situation
- Make all areas and buildings accessible to emergency vehicles to avoid delays once they arrive
- Keep laneways clear of snow in the winter
- Have battery lanterns available and accessible
- Keep important papers and documents in a safe place and ensure someone, other than yourself, is aware of this safe place
- Maintain all-purpose fire extinguishers in the residence and in the garage. Install a smoke detector system
- Keep lawns and gardens maintained in summer
- Inform a trusted neighbour if you are away (do not broadcast the fact that you will be away)
- If possible, cancel deliveries or arrange for papers and mail to be picked up
- Arrange for someone to check your home on a regular basis
- Give a spare key to a trusted friend/neighbour (burglars can find a spare key hidden in an obvious spot such as a flower pot or under a doormat)
- If you come home and an intruder is in your home, do not enter. Call the police immediately.
- If you notice a suspicious loiterer, play it safe and call the police
- Know or have access to local telephone numbers (911, police, crisis center, poison control centre)
- If possible, carry a cell phone for emergencies



Vehicle

- Always park vehicles in well-lit areas
- Do not use parking lots where car doors must be left unlocked and keys surrendered
- Avoid leaving vehicles in unattended lots for long periods of time
- Consider installing a car alarm to deter thieves.
- Equip the gas tank with a locking gas cap
- Select a reliable service station for vehicle service

Telephone

- Never give personal information to strange callers representing themselves as market research or telemarketing companies as they may not be genuine
- When answering the telephone, simply say "Hello" rather than revealing your name
- Do not let strangers know that you are at home alone
- When it appears a caller has dialed your number by mistake, do not supply your name, address or telephone number. Ask the caller the number wanted then advise that a dialing error was made.
- When recording an answering machine message, do not indicate what times you will be in or out, and keep personal information to a minimum