



Royal Bahamas Police Force

Working together for a safe Bahamas

Home Safety Tips

Burglary victims often feel vulnerable and violated as their personal space has been invaded. Residential burglaries statistically occur during the day while families are at work or school. Unfortunately, it is hard to catch burglars in the act and harder to catch them after the fact. While residential burglaries seem random in nature, there is a simple selection process. Unoccupied homes with easy or concealed access and quick escape routes are targeted.

Protect yourself and make your home a less likely target with the following ideas:

- Never leave doors unlocked, even if you only anticipate being at neighbors for a few minutes, in the laundry room, getting your mail, etc.
- Don't leave windows open while you are at work or away from your home. Consider installing window stops that allow windows to be opened slightly for ventilation, but prevent them from opening enough for someone to squeeze in through them
- If you have a burglar alarm system, make sure that it is activated whenever you are away from home and ask your company what will happen if the alarm is disabled by a burglar - does it trigger the alarm or just stop working.
- Make sure adequate locks are installed on all doors and that the door frames are secure and in good condition. The more secure your doors and locks are the less likely you will become a burglary victim.
- If you are planning to be away from home for any extended period, let a neighbor know when you are leaving and returning. Make sure to have your mail and newspaper delivery stopped when you will be away for long periods
- Always report any suspicious activity or individuals in your neighborhood immediately to the police by calling 911. Try to provide a detailed description of the individuals and activity, including descriptions of vehicles that are being used.

Remember that the enemies of the burglar are time and attention. The longer it takes to enter and the more noise he makes increase his chances of being seen and caught. Homes not easily and quickly broken into are most often bypassed for easier target.

Police Emergency
911

National Crime Prevention Office
302-8430 / 1
www.royalbahamaspolice.org

Crime Stoppers
328-TIPS (8477)
Family Islands
(242) 300-8476

"To make The Bahamas a safer place to live, work, visit and play."