



# Royal Bahamas Police Force

*Working together for a safe Bahamas*

## Auto Theft Prevention Safety Tips

The Royal Bahamas Police Force would like to offer you some ideas on how to prevent your vehicle from being stolen.

- Avoid leaving your car while it is running, even if only for a few minutes.
- Locking your car is always the best solution. If you make it easy for someone to get in, they will most likely take advantage of this.
- Control your keys. Only leave the keys necessary for repair shops to do their job, or have a spare key made that says "Do Not Duplicate" for just this purpose.
- Park in well lit, busy areas if possible and close to buildings with windows.
- Buy and install a car alarm.
- If your vehicle is older, have the door locks replaced with tapered ones. These are more difficult to "Jimmy".
- Take your keys with you when going in to pay at convenience stores/ fuel stations.
- Avoid parking in between larger vehicles, which may obscure surveillance on your vehicle.
- Periodically check your license plate to ensure that it is still present.
- Avoid hiding or intentionally leaving a spare key inside the vehicle.
- Use a product to lock the steering wheel. Although these can be easily defeated in most cases, it is one more deterrent they have to contend with. More than likely they will find an easier target. Locks that engage both the steering wheel and one of the pedals are preferred.
- If you have a garage, use it.
- When going out of town, disconnect the battery or remove the electronic ignition fuse.
- Consider anti-theft devices such as fuel shut-off, kill switches, or electronic chip keys.

Record the following information and keep it in a location other than the vehicle:

**Make, Model and Year, Registration (plate) number, Vehicle Identification Number (VIN), Color and any specialties such as bumper stickers, dents, paint variations, etc.**

The Police would like to remind you to be vigilant in the protection of your vehicle and the items that you keep inside them. Criminals look for the easy target...is your vehicle an easy target?

**Police Emergency**  
**911**

**National Crime Prevention Office**  
**302-8430 / 1**  
[www.royalbahamaspolice.org](http://www.royalbahamaspolice.org)

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

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