PROMOTING CRIME PREVENTION AND DISASTER PREPAREDNESS

Home Security Checklist

Use this as a guide as you check your home for safety measures. Boxes marked "No" indicate areas where you can act to improve the security of your home. These are just some of the steps you can take to decrease the likelihood that you or your home will be targeted.

Protecting Exterior Doors	Yes	No
All doors are locked at night and every time we leave the house—even if it's just for a few minutes		
Exterior doors are solid hardwood or metal-clad		
Doors feature wide-angled peepholes at heights everyone can use		
If there are glass panels in or near our doors, they are reinforced in some way so that they cannot be shattered		
All entryways have a working, keyed entry lock and sturdy deadbolt lock installed into the frame of the door		
Spare keys are kept with a trusted neighbor, not under a doormat or planter		
Protecting Garage and Sliding Doors		
The door leading from the attached garage to the house is solid wood and		
Protected with a quality keyed door lock and deadbolt		
The overhead garage door has a lock so that we do not rely solely on the automatic door opener to provide security		
Garage doors are all locked when leaving the house		
The sliding glass door has a dowel or a pin to prevent the door from being shoved aside or lifted off the track		
The sliding door is locked every night and each time we leave the house		

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Protecting Exterior Windows	Yes	No
Every window is equipped with auxiliary locks or pinned		
All windows are locked when they are shut		
Windows are always secured, even when they are open a few inches for ventilation		
Garage windows are covered with curtains or blinds		
Protecting Exterior of Residence		
Shrubs and bushes are trimmed so there is no place for someone to hide		
There are no dark areas around our house, garage or yard at night		
Every outside door has a bright, working light to illuminate visitors		
All gates are locked when not in use		
The lights around the perimeter of the house are controlled by motion detectors or photocells		
Our house numbers are clearly displayed so police and other emergency vehicles can find the house quickly		
A lock secures our electrical switch box		
Security When Away from Home		
At least two light timers have been set to turn the lights on and off in a logical sequence, when we are away from home for an extended period of time		
The motion detector or other alarm system (if we have one) has been activated when we leave home		
Someone has been asked to tend the yard and watch our home when we are away		

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Security When Away from Home	Yes	No
Mail and newspaper deliveries have been stopped or arrangements for a neighbor/friend to pick them up have been made when we go away from home for any period		
A vacation request form has been filled out on City of Los Altos website via <u>https://www.losaltosca.gov/police/webform/vacation-contact-form</u>		
Home Security System		
Home security system with full residence coverage		
Home security system with monitoring service		
Home security system with notification capabilities		
Register your home security system with the Los Altos Police Department via <u>https://www.crywolfservices.com/losaltosca/</u>		
Home security system that is activated		
Home Security Camera System		
Home security camera system with access point / driveway / street coverage		
Home security camera system with recording capabilities		
Home security camera system with notification capabilities		
Home security camera system with adequate storage capabilities		
Register your home security camera system with the Los Altos Police Department		
Home security camera system that is activated		

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Protecting Outdoor Valuables and Personal Property	Yes	No
Gate latches, garage doors, and shed doors are all locked with high-security laminated padlocks		
Gate latches, garage doors and shed doors are locked after every use		
Grills, lawn mowers, and other valuables are stored in a locked garage or shed, or if left out in the open, are hidden from vies with a tarp and securely locked to a stationary point		
Every bicycle is secured with a U-bar lock or quality padlock and chain		
Bikes are always locked, even if we leave them for just a minute		
Firearms are stored unloaded and locked in storage boxes and secured with trigger guard locks		
Valuable items, such as television, stereos and computers have been inscribed with identifying number or mark		
Our home inventory is up-to-date (make, model, serial numbers, pictures, etc.) and a complete copy is stored in a secure location		