

HOME SECURITY CHECKLIST

Los Altos Police Department Home Security Checklist

Use this as a guide as you check your home for safety measures. Boxes marked “no” indicate areas where you can take action to improve your home’s security. These are just some of the steps you can take to decrease the likelihood that you or your home is targeted.

Yes	No	Exterior Doors
		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 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
Yes	No	Garage and Sliding Door Security
		The door leading from the attached garage to the house is solid wood and protected with a quality keyed door lock and dead-bolt
		The overhead garage door has a lock so that we do not rely solely on the automatic door opener to provide security
		The garage doors are all locked when leaving the house
		The sliding glass door has a dowel or 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
Yes	No	Protecting Windows
		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
Yes	No	Outdoor Security
		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 that would hide prowlers
		Every outside door has a bright, working light to illuminate visitors
		The lights around the perimeter of the house are controlled by motion detectors
		A lock secures our electrical switch box
		Our house numbers are clearly displayed so police and other emergency vehicles can find the house quickly.
Yes	No	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
		The motion detector or other alarm system (if we have one) has been activated every time we leave the home and we have an alarm permit on file.

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Yes	No	Security When Away From Home (continued)
		Someone has been asked to tend the yard and watch our home when we are away
		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 a period of time.
		Before I go out of town, I notify the police department by filling out a vacation contact form, which provides them with emergency contact information should anything happen at my residence while I am away
Yes	No	Outdoor Valuables and Personal Property
		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 views with a tarp and securely locked to a stationary point
		Every bicycle is secured with a U-bar lock or quality padlock and chain
		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 approved by local police
		Our home inventory is up to date and includes pictures. A complete copy is kept somewhere outside of the house.

Name _____

Driver's License # Inscribed _____

OPERATION IDENTIFICATION INVENTORY LIST

Room _____

Item	Model No.	Mfg. Serial No.	Where Marked	Size	Color	Physical Description