



Parma Police Department
 5555 Powers Blvd.
 Parma, Ohio 44129

Residential Security Survey

There is no such thing as a burglar-proof home. However, even professional burglars would admit that you can discourage them by taking steps to increase your home security. One of the first steps is to identify places of vulnerability and take measures to shore them up.

This survey will not make your home burglar proof. It will simply result in suggestions that may help improve your home protection.

It is suggested that you review your home security several times per year. Becoming complacent is one of the largest obstacles to personal safety.

Y/N	EXTERIOR OF THE HOME
	Is the address clearly visible from the street? Are they painted on the curb?
	Are entry areas unobstructed by shrubbery and other items to permit visibility by your neighbors?
	Are trees and shrubs trimmed to eliminate concealment / hiding places?
	Are lights mounted out of reach?
	Can lights be compromised by simply unscrewing the light bulb?
	Are lights controlled by photocell or motion detection?
	Does outdoor lighting cover the perimeter of the structure eliminating concealment?
	Does outdoor lighting illuminate the house numbers?
	Have you eliminated your name off the outside of your home?
	Are telephone and electrical lines located in a manner that makes them easily accessible?
	Are outside service (phone, electrical, etc.) boxes secured?
	Are detached structures properly secured / locked?
	Are there privacy fences that offer too high a degree of concealment? If so, have you taken precautions such as an alarm system?
	Are there alarm signs visible?
	Are there alarm company decals on windows and points of entry?
	Does the property have a well maintained appearance?

CONTINUED...

Residential Security Survey

WINDOWS	
	Are all windows equipped with auxiliary locks or pinned?
	Can windows left open for ventilation be secured?
	Are window locks properly and securely mounted?
	Do you keep your windows locked when they are shut?
	Are there window air conditioning units?
	Are window air conditioners anchored to prevent removal from the outside?
	Have screws been installed in the tracks of sliding windows to prevent them from being lifted out?
	Do you have curtains or blinds covering garage windows?
	Are there good, secure locks on garage windows?

DOORS	
	Do the doors fit tightly within their frames?
	Have the locks been changed or re-keyed since the last tenant?
	Are the locks in good working order?
	If there is an alarm, does it cover perimeter windows and doors as well as motion?
	Have you planned so that there is no need to "hide" a key outside the house? <i>Comm. Center records / Cuyahogacounty.us</i>
	Are all the keys to the home accounted for?
	Are exterior doors solid core construction?
	Are there 190 degree wide-angle viewers on the exterior doors?
	Can all doors, including those on upper floor be properly secured?
	Have sliding doors been modified to keep them from being lifted out of the track?
	Can the overhead garage door be properly secured? (a padlock at the very least)
	Do you lock the garage door leading to the house?
	Are garage door openers left in cars that are parked outside the garage?
	If there are glass panels in or near doors, are they reinforced to prevent them from being shattered out?
	Do doors and windows allow an easy escape in the event of an emergency?

WHEN GOING AWAY	
	Do you leave in a manner so that the average person would not be able to tell you're leaving? Pack the car out of sight.
	Do you notify someone to watch your residence?
	Do you arrange for friends or a neighbor to retrieve your mail, newspaper and other deliveries?

Residential Security Survey

	Have you left both work and / or vacations numbers with a trusted individual so that you can be contacted in the case of an emergency?
	Have you made arrangements for lawn care / snow removal?
	Are timers in place for interior lighting, radios, etc..?
	Did you turn the phone ringer and answering machine down to low?
	Have you taken steps to make sure there is nothing different regarding the appearance of your home that would indicate you are gone?
	Have you taken the garage door opener and anything with your name and address out of your car?
	Have you made arrangements to have your garbage cans taken to the curb and put back on garbage day? Their presence and or absence could indicate nobody home.
	Do you park halfway down your driveway so it looks like someone is home and makes it more difficult for thieves to load things up?
	Have valuables been placed in uncommon areas instead of the obvious spots?

Miscellaneous Issues	
	Do you keep an inventory of valuables and is it secured in a safe place?
	Does your inventory include photographs and a record of serial numbers for valuable items?
	Have you discussed with your family members how they should respond if they were to discover a burglar breaking in or already in the house?
	Do you have emergency numbers listed by or on your phone?
	Do you shred personal information instead of putting it out with the trash?
	Do you maintain a corded phone?
	Do you maintain a phone with numbers that light up?
	Do you maintain a cell phone?
	Do you practice safety drills with your family?
	Do you know where family members are at all times?
	Do you have emergency supplies on hand for fire, earthquake, power outages, etc...?
	Are firearms unloaded and locked away safely?
	Do you vary your daily routine occasionally?
	Do you keep the keyless entry to your vehicle nearby at night?
	Are insurance policies kept up to date?
	Use direct numbers instead of 9-1-1 when using a cell phone if at all possible.
	Report suspicious activity immediately – If you wait it may be too late.
	Keep batteries on hand and be sure to replace those in smoke alarms on a regular basis.