

HOME OWNER SAFETY CHECKLIST

Tips for homeowners to help keep their new home safe from burglars.



When you purchase a new home, it's important that you do everything possible to make that new home as safe as possible from potential thieves.

Moving vans and a change of owner might look appealing to burglars looking for an easy target. Follow the tips below to begin to protect your home the day you move in.

CHANGE THE LOCKS

This may seem obvious, but in the busyness of a recent move it's easy to forget to change all of the locks on your new home.

While the previous homeowner may hand you their keys at closing, you can't guarantee that they didn't give keys to their friends or relatives. It's always best to change the locks, so you know exactly who has access to your new home.



INSTALL MOTION-SENSOR LIGHTING

Lighting that turns on when something moves or someone walks by can help you keep an eye on the area outside your house. It's also a pretty good deterrent to potential burglars.

HIDE VALUABLES

Don't leave large, valuable items like electronics outside or near open windows for anyone to see and potentially come back for when you're not at the home.

This is also a good reason to invest in curtains shortly after your move.



KEEP YOUR LANDSCAPE LOW AND WELL-KEPT

Overgrown bushes and landscape can become hiding places for potential burglars.

Take time to trim the bushes and clean up the landscaping around your home.



GET TO KNOW THE NEIGHBORS

Take some time to meet and get to know your neighbors. By doing this, you'll know if someone does not belong and is potentially up to something in your neighborhood.

This also gives a group of people who will and can look out for your and your home.



NEVER HIDE A KEY

That fake rock or plant on the front stoop is not kidding anyone. Give a spare key to your neighbor or someone close by, so you are not potentially letting someone unwanted into your house.

