



Auto Theft and Burglary Prevention Tips

Take your keys and never leave a second set in your vehicle. Twenty percent of stolen vehicles had keys inside them, making the theft even easier.

Lock your car. Almost half of all vehicles stolen were left unlocked.

Park in well-lit or heavily-trafficked areas. Thieves do not like witnesses. Find an attended lot or garage if possible.

Never leave your car running unattended. Cars are often stolen at convenience stores, gas stations or when an owner leaves the vehicle running to warm it up.

Install an anti-theft device. Many insurance companies may give you a discount for certain anti-theft devices. Check with your agent for details.

Anti-theft devices include:

- Ignition or fuel-kill switches. Kill switches are inexpensive devices that disable the car until being disengaged.
- Visible steering wheel, floorboard, tire, or gearshift locks. These locks disable key components of the vehicle, rendering it immobile.
- Hood locks. These prevent the thief from gaining access to your engine, security system, or battery.
- Armored collar around the steering column. Collars protect the column and some ignition switches from tampering.
- Alarms. Security systems are common and make loud warning sounds when the car is opened.
- Optional sensors. These may detect glass breaking, motion, tampering, or towing.
- Vehicle tracking. A hidden transmitter enables tracking the car (may not be available in all areas).

Burglary of Vehicle Tips

- Hide your valuables. Do not move valuable items to the trunk while in public view.
- Items in the open make your car a larger target.
- Park in well-lit or heavily-trafficked areas.
- Thieves do not like witnesses. Find an attended lot or garage if possible.
- Do not leave windows or sunroof open.
- Do not leave doors unlocked.
- Do not leave the garage door opener in plain view.
- Do not leave out items with personal information.
- Be attentive to your surroundings. Slow down and use common sense before you leave your car.