

## ALARMS

Burglar alarms in addition to good locks and lighting add an extra means of security to your home.

Most burglar alarms emit a loud noise from a bell, siren or tone generator. An audible alarm on doors and windows can be an effective deterrent to the amateur burglar. If you do install an audible alarm, make sure that your family and neighbors are informed about its function and that they know to call the police when they hear the alarm.

In addition to an audible alarm you can also have your alarm monitored by a monitoring company. If your alarm goes off, a signal is sent to a monitoring service, who then notifies the Newport Beach Police Department. The police will then dispatch an officer to your home.

A permit is required to operate an alarm system in the City of Newport Beach. There is a fee of \$70.00 to obtain a permit, valid for three years. For more information on obtaining a permit or the Newport Beach Police Department's monitoring service, call (949) 644-3723 or (949) 644-3722.

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*Neighborhood Watch is another effective tool in the fight against crime.*

*If you are not currently involved in Neighborhood Watch and you would like to start one in your neighborhood call (949) 644-3699.*

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*Most if not all of the hardware and lighting suggested in this pamphlet can be found at your local hardware store or home center.*

For more information on locks, lighting, and landscaping, please call the Newport Beach Police Department at (949) 644-3699 and request a copy of the Attorney General's *Home Safety Handbook*.

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For further information on crime prevention please call the Newport Beach Crime Prevention Unit at (949) 644-3699.

## Newport Beach POLICE DEPARTMENT

Business Line  
644-3717

Emergency  
911



## HOME SECURITY

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Visit us on the Web at  
[www.nbpd.org](http://www.nbpd.org)

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*Newport Beach*

**POLICE DEPARTMENT**








# The facts about burglary

- More than six million residential burglaries occur every year in this country. That's one every ten seconds!
- Residential burglaries amount to over 1.5 billion dollars in losses each year with an average loss of \$526.00 per burglary.
- Nearly half of the burglaries committed are without force, either through an UNLOCKED door or window.

*Many of these burglaries could have been prevented if the residents had taken a few minutes to properly secure their home.*

## Preventing a Break-in

The following suggestions will help you enhance your home's security.

-  Remember! An unlocked lock is not a lock! Always lock your doors and windows even when leaving for just a minute.
-  Make sure that your address numbers are visible both at night and during the day.
-  Don't leave notes indicating you aren't home or when you will return.
-  Never have a name or identification tag attached to your house keys. If they are ever lost or stolen you might get an unwelcome visitor.
-  Never leave a house key hidden outside your home whether it's under a doormat, in or under a flowerpot, under a rock, or on a door ledge.
-  Keep your garage door closed when you are not in or near it. Burglars are quick; they can enter an open garage and remove bikes, tools, golf clubs and other expensive items in just a few seconds.
-  Remember, if you come home and see a broken window, open door or evidence that someone has been in your home, DON'T GO IN! Phone the police immediately!

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*In the event of a surprise encounter with an intruder, remain calm. If you are able to flee to safety do so, if not remain still and allow him to leave. Do not attempt to detain him, he may be armed. Your property is replaceable, but you're not!*

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## Securing Your Doors and Windows

### EXTERIOR DOORS

- These doors should be of solid-core construction and have a thickness of at least 1 ¾ inches.
- They should be secured with a deadbolt lock, having a one-inch throw or vertical drop bolt.
- Install a 190-degree wide-angle viewer in your front door. Never open the door without knowing who is there.
- If there are no windows in or near the door, a single cylinder deadbolt is recommended.
- If your door has glass panes or if there are windows within forty inches of the lock, a double cylinder deadbolt lock is recommended, so that a key is required from either side of the door.



**CAUTION: If you do install a double cylinder deadbolt, for safety, always keep the keys in the lock when the home is occupied. This will allow the occupants of the residence to safely get out in case of a fire.**

If you have an interior door leading from the garage to the house it too should be equipped with the hardware described above. This is an entry door often overlooked by homeowners when they are looking to heighten their security.

### WINDOWS

There are many different types of windows with several different types of auxiliary locks on the market. The following are a few examples:



**Double-hung sash** – To secure these windows, drill a hole that angles slightly downward through the top corner of the bottom window, into the bottom corner of the top window, on both sides. Then place an eyebolt or nail into the hole to prevent the window from being open.

**Sliding glass doors and windows** – To prevent sliding glass doors or windows from being lifted from their track, it is recommended that a 1¼ inch large sheet metal screw be inserted into the top of the doorframe at both ends and in the middle. These screws should be adjusted so that the door/window barely clears the screws when it is operated.

Supplemental locks or pins should be installed at the top or bottom and/or wooden dowels can be placed in the bottom track to prevent the door or window from opening.

## Your Home's Exterior

### LANDSCAPING

- Keep trees and bushes trimmed so they do not block the view into your home or looking out. Overgrown trees and shrubs can also provide concealment for burglars.
- Always keep tree limbs cut back away from your home. These make great ladders for burglars.

### LIGHTING

Lighting is the number one deterrent of crime, so always keep your home well lit.

- Keep your porch light on during the night or consider installing a photocell sensor. This sensor will automatically turn your lights on at dusk and off at dawn.
- Install lights around your home's perimeter. Motion detector and photocell fixtures are good choices for this type of lighting.
- Use timers so that lights go on and off throughout your house indicating someone is home. Consider adding these timers to your radio or TV as well.