

Long Beach Police Department

REDUCE YOUR CHANCES OF BECOMING A VICTIM OF A RESIDENTIAL BURGLARY

HOW TO PREVENT A BREAK-IN

- ◆ Remember, an unlocked lock is not a lock. Always lock your doors and windows even when leaving for just a minute.
- ◆ Don't leave notes indicating you are not at home or when you will return.
- ◆ Familiarize yourself with the people and cars in your neighborhood.
- ◆ Watch out for suspicious people knocking on doors. They may be a potential burglar checking to see if anyone is home. Please call for police assistance if you suspect a person has suspicious intentions.
- ◆ Screen all work crews and contractors appropriately.
- ◆ Never have a name or identification tag attached to your house keys or on the front of your home. 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 and locked when you are not in or near it. Burglars can enter an open garage and remove bikes, tools and other expensive items in just a few seconds.
- ◆ 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 and large tree limbs make great ladders for burglars.
- ◆ Make sure that your address numbers are visible both at night and during the day. Also include them on your back fence if your property is adjacent to an alley, as this will assist police in locating your residence in the case of an emergency.
- ◆ 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.
- ◆ Use timers throughout your house for times when you may not be home.
- ◆ Invest in a burglary alarm system. Burglar alarms in addition to good locks and lighting add an extra means of security to your home.
- ◆ Engrave your valuables with your California drivers license number. This makes your property more difficult to pawn and helps law enforcement to identify your property, if it is recovered.
- ◆ 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!



Long Beach Police Department

**Police Communications Center
Emergency: 9-1-1**

Non-Emergency: 562-435-6711

Headquarters: 562-570-7260

Website: longbeach.gov/police

IF YOU WITNESS SUSPICIOUS ACTIVITY, PLEASE CALL THE LONG BEACH POLICE DEPARTMENT IMMEDIATELY. WHILE SOME SUSPICIOUS ACTIVITIES MAY HAVE INNOCENT EXPLANATIONS, THE POLICE DEPARTMENT WOULD RATHER INVESTIGATE A SITUATION AND POSSIBLY DETER A CRIME, THAN TO BE CALLED ONCE IT IS TOO LATE. YOUR NEIGHBORS WILL APPRECIATE IT!