



# Indianapolis CrimeWatch

Good Neighbors Make Great Neighborhoods

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## Home Safety Tips

### When at home:

- Have a peephole in front door. Those with magnifying glass lens are best. You can see who is outside without opening the door.
- Always ask who is it? before opening the door. If you don't know the person and you are alone...call out to someone as if someone else is in the house i.e. honey someone's at the door name ? Do you know them?
- Exterior lights should illuminate doors, dark spots and yards, put interior lights on timers to simulate that someone is home.
- Keep shrubbery trimmed. Thick and tall shrubbery can hide windows/doors.
- Remain alert to strangers in the neighborhood. Do not hesitate to call **IMPD** to report suspicious persons or activities
- Take a walk around your home and look for areas of entry that could be easy access for burglars.
- Motion sensor lights are especially good for theft prevention
- Secure patio doors. A steel or wooden rod in the guide channel will work.

### When you are away:

- Never leave a note on your door saying that you are not home
- Don't leave keys in an obvious outdoor location...i.e. doormat, flower pot or on a ledge...burglars look here first
- Get to know your neighbors by sharing friendly conversation or cookout...an active neighbor serves as a deterrent to burglars
- Leave a radio on. Turn it to a talk radio station, if possible turn the volume up enough to be heard if someone comes close to your house
- Turn the volume on your phone ringer down very low so that a prowler doesn't hear it ringing
- Don't leave valuables out in the open...secure them in a safe or safe deposit box...including social security cards and birth certificates
- Call your district police for extra patrol while you are away for long periods of time...i.e. vacation, employment, etc