

## Did you know that a burglary happens every 20 seconds in the U.S., according to the FBI?

Your home is your most valuable possession and your family's safe haven. By following a few simple security habits, you can help keep your loved ones and belongings protected.

## **Home Safety Tips**

- Keep your landscape trimmed and open. Overgrown shrubs and dark corners can give thieves places to hide, so clear them regularly.
- Stay informed by talking with your local police department. They can share break-in trends and prevention tips specific to your neighborhood.
- Build community connections. Knowing your neighbors and looking out for one another adds an extra layer of protection when you're away.
- Light your property wisely. Motion-activated fixtures deter intruders and provide light when needed. Automatic timers or smart bulbs that mimic your presence can make your home appear occupied even when it isn't.
- Avoid advertising new purchases. Porch pirates target visible deliveries, so request signatures or ship to secure locations. Break down packaging for electronics or other valuables discreetly.
- Establish a safety routine. Lock doors and windows, arm your alarm, and avoid hiding spare keys outside—thieves know the usual spots.
- Maintain visibility. Ensure you can see who's at the door without opening
  it, and keep valuables out of view from windows or the street.
- Secure your outdoor spaces. Lock sheds, garages, and outdoor equipment such as grills and bikes.
- Plan for time away. Pause mail and deliveries, have someone remove flyers, and arrange yard or snow care so your absence isn't obvious.



## Key Points:



Keep your home visible and well lit by trimming landscaping and using smart lighting to deter unwanted attention.

Build awareness and connection by working with neighbors and local police to stay informed and look out for each other.

Be consistent and discreet by locking up, securing deliveries, and keeping valuables out of sight to protect your home inside and out.



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