

An Garda Síochána



Crime Prevention Information Sheet



Home Security Checklist Challenge



Burglars like easy opportunities. If they have to make a lot of noise, spend a lot of time or risk being seen, the chances are they won't bother. A good rule of thumb is the 3 minute delay test. If you can deny entry for 3 minutes or more – chances are the burglars will go elsewhere. Complete this simple home security survey to determine how well your home is secured against burglary. Ignore questions not relevant to your own home.

Remember, every NO answer is a threat to your home security.

| Doors and Windows | Yes | No |
|--|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1 Are all your external doors properly fitted and equipped with appropriate secure locking systems? (i.e. 5-lever mortice locks for wooden doors, multi-point locking for uPVC doors etc.) | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 2 If you have glass panelled doors – are they reinforced in some way so that they cannot be shattered? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 3 Have you a wide-angled viewer in your front/main entrance doors or other means of viewing callers? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 4 Do you have a door chain / limiter fitted and do you use it? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 5 Since moving into your home (where there may have been a previous occupier) have you had the locks changed? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 6 Are your spare keys kept with a trusted neighbour and never left under an external mat, flower pot etc. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 7 Do you lock your external doors when away from home, no matter how short a time? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 8 Do you lock the doors out of your view when working in the garden / yard? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 9 Have you installed an additional lock(s) to your sliding glass / patio doors? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 10 Can you close and lock your garage / outhouse doors? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 11 Are the garage / outhouse doors protected with quality locks or deadbolts? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 12 Do you close and lock your garage /outhouse doors? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 13 Are all your windows secure? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 14 Can the window openings be restricted for ventilation? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 15 Do you check to see if all windows are secured when you leave your home? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION ON THIS OR OTHER CRIME PREVENTION ISSUES,
PLEASE CONTACT
your local GARDA CRIME PREVENTION OFFICER
or
visit the Garda website at www.garda.ie**

Inside Security

Yes

No

- 1 Do you ask for identification before allowing unknown servicemen / callers into your home? Yes No
- 2 Do you avoid leaving cash at home? Yes No
- 3 Have you automatic timers on some lights when your house is vacant? Yes No
- 4 Does your home always look like someone is at home? Yes No
- 5 Have you recorded serial numbers of your valuables? Yes No
- 6 Have you, for identification purposes, photographed your valuables especially items for which you have no serial numbers such as jewellery, china, crystal, paintings, antiques etc? Yes No
- 7 Are your car / house keys kept in a location not visible from the outside? Yes No

Outside Security

Yes

No

- 1 Is your house number visible from the street? Yes No
- 2 Is there sufficient illumination around your home to allow visible inspection of any dark areas around it? Yes No
- 3 Is there sufficient external lighting outside every door to illuminate visitors? Yes No
- 4 Do neighbours and passers-by have a clear view of your home? Yes No
- 5 Have you trimmed all hedges and shrubs so they can't hide a burglar at work on the windows and doors? Yes No
- 6 Have you ever walked around your house looking for ways a burglar might be able to get in? Yes No
- 7 Do you keep tools or ladders etc. in places inaccessible to potential burglars? Yes No
- 8 Are machines, tools and other high value items stored in garages or sheds securely padlocked or chained to prevent removal? Yes No
- 9 Is your shed / garage secure? Yes No

Holiday Security

Yes

No

- 1 Have you a reliable neighbour whom you can notify of your travel plans and give a key to, with a request for a periodic house check? Yes No
- 2 Do you have a neighbour collect your mail or newspapers when you are away or do you avail of Mailminder from An Post? Yes No
- 3 Do you cancel all deliveries? Yes No
- 4 Do you have your neighbour park his / her extra car in your driveway when you are away from home? Yes No
- 5 Do you arrange to have your lawn mowed? Yes No
- 6 Do you notify the Gardaí of prolonged absences from your home? Yes No

Electronic Security

Yes

No

- 1 Do you have an intruder alarm system fitted and do you use it? Yes No
- 2 Does it conform to the European Norm standard EN 50131? Yes No
- 3 Is it maintained and serviced annually? Yes No
- 4 Are you aware of the current Garda Intruder Alarm Policy? Yes No
- 5 Do you know how to operate and use your alarm system functions? Yes No
- 6 Have you considered connecting it to a monitoring centre or your mobile phone? Yes No
- 7 Have you appointed a keyholder(s) and will they respond appropriately to an alarm activation? Yes No