

Winston-Salem Police Department Crime Prevention Unit



Home Safety Program

Presented by
Winston-Salem Police Department
Crime Prevention Unit



House Breaking Statistics 2007

- One Burglary occurred every 2.0 hours
- 4,363 Burglaries were reported
- The most frequent month: December
- The least frequent month: February
- Most frequent type: forcible
- Most frequent time: day

Point of Entry for Year 2004

- Back Door – 181
- Basement Door – 30
- Basement Window – 20
- Front Door – 256
- Window – 357
- Side Door - 41



Prevention Tips

- Have a neighbor or a friend collect mail or newspapers when you are away on vacation
- Keep bushes and shrubbery trimmed to no more than 3 feet high
- The lowest limb on a tree should be 6 feet off the ground

Prevention Tips

- Place House numbers in a clearly visible location from the street
- Use motion-sensor lights on the exterior of the residence
- Use auxiliary lighting for dark places in your yard
- Replace hollow-core exterior doors with solid-core doors

Prevention Tips

- Use double-cylinder deadbolt locks on all exterior doors
- Keep all doors and windows locked when you are away from home
- Lock your residence when completing yard work
- Supplement your window locks if the current lock is insufficient

Prevention Tips

- Do you own an alarm system?
 - Is it operating properly?
 - Is it monitored by an outside agency?
 - Alarm Ordinance
-
- Are you a member of a Neighborhood Watch group?
 - Would you like to start one?

Prevention Tips

- Advertise your alarm system with a yard sign and window stickers
- Advertise your participation in Neighborhood Watch with a yard sign
- Request a Residential Security Survey from the Crime Prevention Unit

Prevention Tips

- Participate in Operation ID by:
 - Making a list of your valuables, to include make, model, and serial numbers
 - Engrave your valuables with your NCDL number
 - Make a video inventory of your property

Things to Consider

- Consider purchasing Renters Insurance, if you do not own a home
- Consider purchasing a safe for valuables and firearms
- Consider establishing a plan of action in the event your home is burglarized
- Consider the value of owning a pet

Reporting Suspicious Activity

- Report all suspicious activity: Persons and Vehicles, by calling 773-7700
- A suspicious person can be anyone that makes you feel uncomfortable
- Remember: Criminals usually “case” a neighborhood before committing a crime

Information Needed

- When reporting suspicious persons include the following information:
 - Height
 - Weight
 - Clothing Description
 - Race
 - Sex
 - Direction of travel



Information Needed

- When reporting suspicious vehicles include the following information:
 - Type: Chevrolet, Honda, Toyota, etc.
 - Color
 - License number, if possible
 - Noticeable damage, or loud noises
 - Direction of travel or location is stationary



Reporting a House Breaking

- In the event you arrive home and find your home has been forcibly entered:
 - DO NOT ENTER
 - Go to a neighbor's home and report the crime, by dialing **911**
 - Stay there until the police arrive
 - Provide assistance to the police as requested
 - Call a close friend or family member if you feel uncomfortable remaining in the home

Final Questions

