

Home security holiday checklist



Take these simple steps to protect your home while your away.

Lock up when you leave

- ☐ Lock all doors, windows, gates, sheds, pet doors, skylights and access points.
- ☐ Remove any spare keys hidden outside your home.
- ☐ Lock your car if you're leaving it at home and secure it in a garage or behind locked gates.
- ☐ If you have a garage, make sure the main and access doors are both securely locked.

Make it seem like someone is at home

- ☐ Set timers to switch lamps and lights on and off at night.
- ☐ Install or check motion sensor lighting outside the front and rear entry.
- ☐ Turn down the volume on your telephone ringer and turn off alarm clocks.
- ☐ Mow your lawn and trim shrubs and bushes around the front entry.
- ☐ Use timers so that your radio or TV turn on and off at various times through the day.

Stop any regular deliveries

- ☐ Cancel any regular deliveries such as newspapers or food.
- ☐ Arrange with Australia Post to have your mail redirected or held at the post office.
- ☐ Put a "no junk mail" sign on your letterbox.

Put your valuables out of sight

- ☐ Hide valuables such as laptops, jewellery and keys so they can't be seen from outside.
- ☐ Lock away all tools, ladders and any other items which could be used to break into your home.

Ask your trusted neighbours, friends or family to:

- ☐ House-sit or regularly keep an eye on your place.
- ☐ Collect mail and junk mail daily.
- ☐ Park their car in your driveway every now and then.
- ☐ Put your garbage bins out on collection day and bring them back in.
- ☐ Open and close your blinds or window shutters at appropriate times of the day.

Don't advertise your absence

- ☐ Be careful about posting holidays plans or happenings on social media.
- ☐ Set your social media accounts to private or "friends only" and delete any followers you don't know.
- ☐ Notify police you'll be away by filling out an Absence from Residence form at www.police.vic.gov.au/palolr

Neighbourhood Watch Victoria has prepared this checklist as a guide to help people reduce the risk of their home being burgled while they're away. This checklist does not guarantee that all security risks have been identified or that the property evaluated will be completely secure and free from criminal activity if all recommendations are followed.