

HARRIS COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

CRIME PREVENTION AND SAFETY TIPS

LIGHTING IS ONE OF THE MOST COST-EFFECTIVE DETERRENTS TO BURGLARY

- Install landscape lighting
- Place motion detector lights at the front and rear entryways
- Aim motion detector lights away from the house so lights activate when someone approaches
- Place exterior lights so as to prevent bulbs from being easily removed or broken
- Set interior lights on a timer

ALARMS ARE RECOMMENDED

- Use those monitored by a UL approved company
- Install both interior and exterior sirens
- Install sensors on all exterior doors and windows

LANDSCAPING SHOULD PROVIDE MAXIMUM VISIBILITY

- Trim hedges and shrubs at a level 18"-24" from the ground and 6"-12" beneath windows
- Cut tree limbs at a level no lower than 6' from the ground
- Cut back shrubbery from around doorways 2'-3'

EXTERIOR DOORS SHOULD BE METAL OR SOLID WOOD CONSTRUCTION WITH NON REMOVAL HINGE PINS

- Ensure that hinges for exterior doors are on the inside
- Ensure that exterior doors have 180-degree view-finder to allow you to see the exterior access way without opening the door
- Secure exterior sliding glass doors with a secondary locking device to prevent lifting or prying
- Secure exterior doors with a deadbolt lock
- Ensure that exterior doors with glass windows or panels within 40 inches of lock are secured by a double-cylinder deadbolt

WINDOWS SHOULD BE SECURED BY SECONDARY LOCKING DEVICES

Place a dowel rod horizontally in the interior track of sliding windows and vertically in the interior track of standard windows

GARAGE DOORS SHOULD BE CLOSED AND SECURED BY A LOCKING DEVICE WHENEVER POSSIBLE

- Garage door opener
- Standard lock/latch handle Exterior lock that utilizes a key Padlock on the inside rail

VEHICLES SHOULD BE LOCKED AND SECURED WHEN NOT IN USE AND VISIBLE ENTICEMENTS ELIMINATED

- Park vehicles in a well-lighted area
- Keep valuables such as cash, loose change, sunglasses, purses, wallets, CDs, tapes, and tools out of sight
- Secure the vehicle with auto alarm if possible
- Secure the steering column with an anti-theft device
- Secure pickup tailgates with locking device
- Avoid leaving keys inside of the vehicle
- Avoid leaving the vehicle running while unattended