



BostonPolice
DEPARTMENT

Home Safety

The Boston Police Department strives to make the City of Boston a safe place to live and work. Unfortunately, no area is completely immune to crime; but following these simple safety precautions and communicating with your local police officers are small, yet effective, ways to help prevent you and your neighbors from becoming victimized.

KEEP YOUR HOME SAFE:

When you begin to think about securing your home, answer the following question, "If I were locked out, how would I get in?" Begin there.

- Any and all windows should be locked. This includes basement windows.
- If you have trees or shrubs covering windows, consider trimming them for better visibility
- Be sure to have locks on all doors. Don't neglect back doors, side doors, porch doors, and garage doors; thieves prefer to use the doors out of plain view. So be sure they are secured.
- Consider installing motion censored lights on the exterior of you home. Thieves prefer to work in the dark where no one can see them. Eliminate this element by having proper lighting on porches, driveways, alleyways, and back doors.
- Never hide a key under a mat or in a mailbox. Give a key to a trusted neighbor for safe keeping.
- Be sure not to put out large boxes with labels displaying logos of your newly purchased items. Break down boxes and don't put them outside until trash day.

Going away? Be sure to create the illusion that someone is home.

- Consider using timed lights on the interior and exterior of your home.
- Close blinds to be sure your TVs, laptops, and other expensive possessions aren't being displayed.
- Ask a trusted neighbor to pick up your mail and take out your trash bins.
- If you're traveling for a long period of time, you may want to ask a trusted friend or family member to check on your home from time to time.

Get out in your neighborhood. Send a message that "We Care" about where we live!

- Sit outside, garden, walk around the block and get to know your neighbors. Being active in your community is one of the best ways to keep your home and your neighborhood safe.
- Make sure to properly store your tools after working on your home. Things like ladders and hammers can be used by thieves to forcibly enter your home.
- Same goes for toys. Bikes and scooters should be stored in garages, hallways, or locked to a secure object and then covered for protection. These items are stolen easily if not stored and locked.
- Get to know your neighbors. Start a Neighborhood Watch group and address any problems on your street. Communicate these issues with your local police and city officials. Working together creates a unified community.

The Boston Police Department dedicates itself to work in partnership with the community to fight crime, reduce fear and improve the quality of life in our neighborhoods. Our Mission is Community Policing.

For more information, please contact Boston Police Department Neighborhood Watch at 617-343-4345.

To report a crime anonymously:

CRIMESTOPPERS

Call 1-800-494-TIPS, or text
the word "TIP" to CRIME (27463)

(messaging and data rates may apply)

For more information,
please visit:



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