

commercial & business premises

Some things owners can do to reduce the risk of burglary:

- Have a monitored alarm system in place.
- Install a CCTV camera or surveillance system.
- Report any incidents or break-ins no matter how minor.
- Record serial numbers of electronic items and other expensive goods.
- Property mark your equipment.
- If you are closing down for the Christmas period or an extended time frame, have someone check the premises regularly for break-ins. The offender may be tempted to come back more than once if they know no-one is checking!



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avoid
burglaries

Police are always interested in suspicious activity. Don't hesitate to call Police to report something out of the ordinary and, if you see a crime being committed, call 111.



www.police.govt.nz
Counties Manukau Police
Ph 09 2950200



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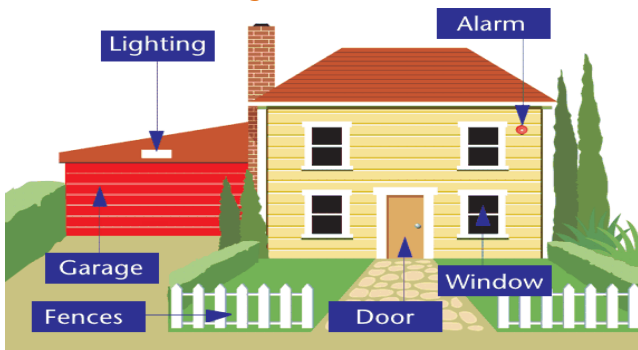
Put yourself in a burglar's shoes. If you 'think like a thief' you will be able to identify the tell-tale signs of security weaknesses in your home or place of business.

Safer Communities Together

home safety

To reduce the risk of a burglary, make sure you:

- Lock your **doors and windows**.
- Record the serial numbers of expensive electronic items and photograph these and other valuables.
- Keep valuables out of sight i.e. jewellery, cameras, electronic games.
- Install an **alarm system**.
- Get sensor **lights fitted**.
- Keep **garden sheds and garages** locked when not in use – and make sure those ladders are tucked away.
- Keep hedges or plants around **doors and windows** well trimmed - don't give the burglar a place to hide.
- Check for weak spots where a thief could get into your garden, for example, a low of **sagging fence**, or a **back gate** with a weak lock.



- Stop your mail and paper if you are going away or arrange for someone to collect it.
- Keep the house secure when you are out in the garden or yard.
- Use a chain on the **door** - don't open the door to strangers, unless the chain is attached.
- Note down registrations of any suspicious vehicles - often burglars will scope out a place beforehand.
- Join or form a Neighbourhood Support Group. Your Community Constable will have details.

going on holiday?



If you are going away:

- Make arrangements for your mail and newspaper to be stopped or collected by a friend or neighbour.
- Hide valuable items, financial documents and spare keys to vehicles etc...
- Lock your garage and any sheds.
- Set timer switches on lights and/or radio.
- Don't mention on your answering machine that you will be away from home for a few days.
- Get a neighbour or friend to make regular checks on the property. They can even close curtains in the evening and turn lights on to give the appearance that someone is at home.

Festive time

Take care when leaving empty boxes outside your home. They can give away details of new and valuable equipment that might be worth stealing.

Insurance cover

Make sure that you have home contents insurance cover.

hoax callers

Burglars won't go to the trouble of breaking in if they can just knock and be invited in.

- Always be on your guard when anyone you're not expecting turns up at your door.
- Hoax 'officials' may be smartly dressed and claim to be from the council, power company, health authority or other organisations.
- Hoax 'workmen' may say that they need to come in to check something or make urgent repairs. Often they'll ask for money in advance.
- Genuine callers will normally make an appointment first and will carry identification with their photograph on.
- Be wary of people calling up stating they are from the bank asking for your personal details such as account numbers, full names, addresses, passwords or pin numbers etc... Legitimate bank employees will not do this.



Remember...

The summer months are fast approaching which means the weather is getting warmer. People will be more inclined to leave windows and doors open during the day and night. It is important to remember that these conditions are ideal for opportunistic burglars to take advantage.