

LAS VEGAS METROPOLITAN POLICE DEPARTMENT

CRIME PREVENTION

10 THINGS TO KNOW ABOUT HOME SECURITY

- 1. LOCK ALL YOUR DOORS / WINDOWS ALL THE TIME!** Most burglars are looking for an easy way in. Any unlocked point of entry can be the easiest way into your home. Close your garage door!
- 2. DEADBOLTS AND DOORS MATTER!** Forcible entry can be deterred by having a deadbolt with at least a 1" throw bolt and a solid wood, metal or security door. Use 3" wood screws in the strike plate. Two locks are better than one. Visit a home improvement store and see what is available.
- 3. LIGHT THE NIGHT!** Criminals do not seek out well-lit homes to break into. Nor do they seek out well-lit areas to hide, vandalize, or commit other crimes. Darkness helps criminals stay hidden and keeps you from seeing what you should see. Great options at any home improvement store.
- 4. GLASS IS VULNERABLE!** All windows and sliding doors have weaknesses due to the ease of shattering the glass. Reinforce with security laminate and do not have any locking device near glass. Reduce the opportunity to maneuver the glass out of the door frame or track by using secondary locking devices or adjusting screws in the track to prevent lifting.
- 5. SPARE KEYS LET ANYONE IN!** Do not leave spare keys outside for any reason. Carry a spare yourself, or provide one to a trusted neighbor or relative/friend. Unattended keys are a risk.
- 6. BE EASILY FOUND!** Make sure your home address is visible and well-lit. Emergency responders look for address information when responding to your home for any emergency.
- 7. CREATE THE LOOK OF OCCUPANCY!** No one is home all the time. The trick is to make your house look or sound occupied when you are away. Use timed lights, radios and things that appear as if you are home. Make sure your house is looked after when you are away. Consider a Home Alarm!
- 8. WHO ARE THE PEOPLE IN YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD?** Begin or participate in a Neighborhood Watch. Look out for each other and create a sense of surveillance over your neighborhood.
- 9. WHAT DO YOU OWN?** Create and maintain a Home Content Inventory List. Know what you own and be able to identify it.
- 10. PAY ATTENTION!** Listen and look. What you see and what you hear may need reported. Be aware of area activity. Write things down. Report suspicious people and activity.

For more information on Home Security or Neighborhood Watch, contact the Crime Prevention Specialist assigned to your LVMPD Area Command. Or, go to www.lvmpd.com and choose the "Protect Yourself" tab where you will find Crime Prevention information.