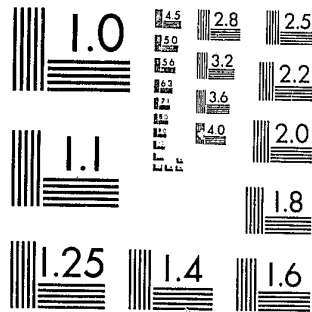


National Criminal Justice Reference Service

ncjrs

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NATIONAL BUREAU OF STANDARDS-1963-A

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National Institute of Justice
United States Department of Justice
Washington, D. C. 20531

DATE
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YOU CAN

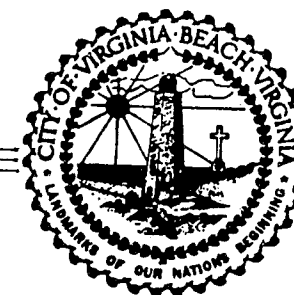


82368

Help Stop Burglary!

CITY OF VIRGINIA BEACH

"World's Largest Resort City"



CITY HALL
VIRGINIA BEACH, VIRGINIA 23456

Col. W. W. Davis
CHIEF OF POLICE

Dear Citizen:

The Virginia Beach Police Department wants your support in reducing the number of burglaries in our city.

The chief aim of this citizen/police, crime-related program is to deter, detect and apprehend burglars within the city of Virginia Beach. Citizens must be willing to support and assist each other in protection of their property.

It is our sincere hope that, by coordinating the efforts of individual home owners and businessmen with the expertise of the personnel of the police department, the objectives of this program will be achieved.

This booklet is provided for your convenience, and we hope it will enable you to assess the security, or otherwise, of your home and businesses and, where necessary, take steps to insure maximum safeguards.

For additional information or assistance, call the Crime Prevention Office, 427-4146. To report a burglary or any other emergency, call 427-5000.

W. W. Davis
Chief of Police

U.S. Department of Justice
National Institute of Justice 82368

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Sgt. D.H. Kappers

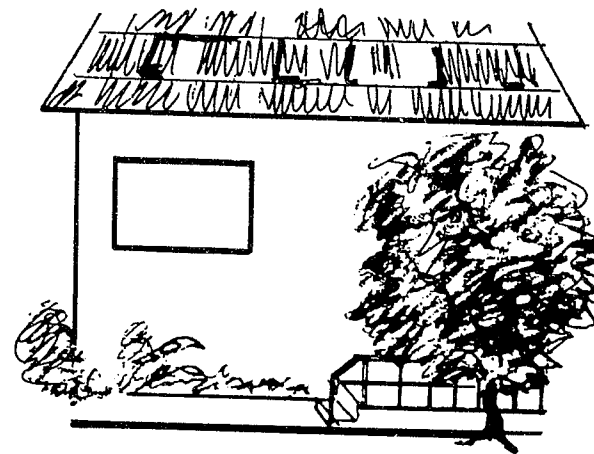
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MINIMUM SECURITY MEANS THE PREVENTION OF ENTRY BY A BURGLAR THROUGH ANY DOOR OR WINDOW EXCEPT BY MEANS OF DESTRUCTIVE FORCE. Most burglars will not break a window to enter. The majority of the devices in this booklet cost very little and the home security procedures suggested cost nothing; all of them will help reduce burglary.

Begin your home security check with the front door and work clockwise around the entire inside of the house. Include all doors and windows, finishing with the back yard, fence and shrubs, gates, and garage.

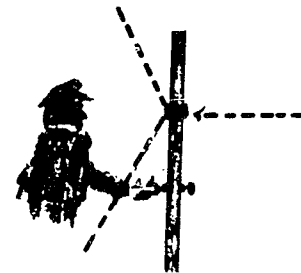
Shrubby should never block the view of your front door. This allows an intruder the opportunity of privacy to gain entrance.



A wide-angle viewer in the door lets you know your visitor.

Don't open door to stranger.
Seek proper identification.
Teach children not to open door.

Door chains offer little or no protection at all.

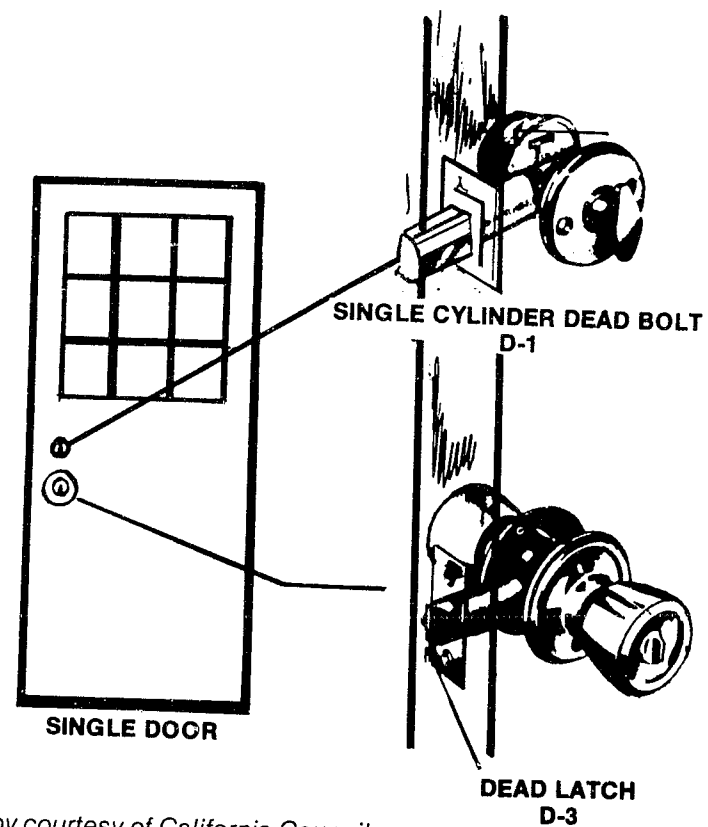


DOOR VIEWER
V-1

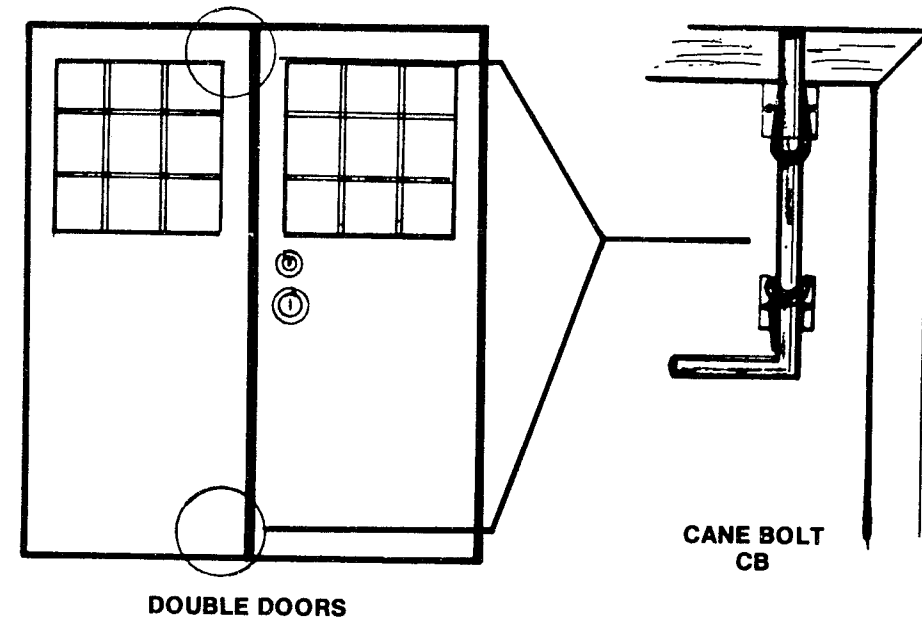
AUXILIARY DEADLOCK—1" deadbolt, single cylinder with hardened cylinder guard, and thumb turn.

If glass is within 40" of the locking hardware, additional security provisions should be followed. See page 3.

A DEAD-LATCH is an inexpensive and attractive addition to your existing knob-lock set which keeps the burglar from simply slipping your door open with a credit card. This method of entry is common in many areas but very easy to prevent.



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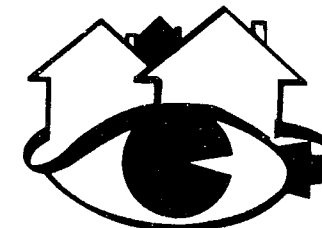


CANE BOLTS—1/2" in diameter by 12" high installed at top and bottom of the inactive door offer *minimum security*.

Many homes with pairs of doors, use half-barrel slidebolts on the inactive door. These are weak and inadequate.

ADDITIONAL SECURITY MEANS THE PREVENTION OF EXIT BY AN INTRUDER THROUGH ANY DOOR EXCEPT BY MEANS OF DESTRUCTIVE FORCE. This reduces the possibility of theft of large household possessions after the intruder has gained entrance through a window and is expecting an easy exit through a door.

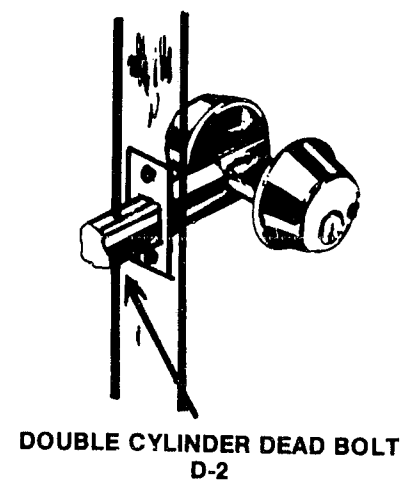
WARNING
OUR PROPERTY IS MARKED



MEMBER - BLOCK SECURITY
VA. BEACH POLICE DEPT.

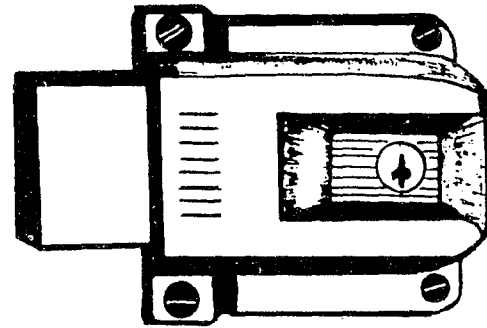
WARNING: One window in every bedroom on the ground and second floor must be left available as a fire exit, particularly for children and guests in your home. At night, the bedroom window may often be the quickest and safest means of getting out. Because of the danger of fire, decorative iron grilles are not recommended on bedroom windows, unless they can be opened from the inside.

Following are illustrations of key locks which can be used as *additional security* when the home is unoccupied.



AUXILIARY DEADLOCK—1" deadbolt and double cylinders with hardened cylinder guards. If the double cylinder deadbolt is locked when the house is occupied, a key should be left in the inside keyhole as a means of fast exit in case of fire. Always remove the key when leaving home.

Lock all doors and windows before you leave. The majority of burglaries are committed by persons on narcotics, so even if you are not concerned about your valuables—why support their habit?



RIM LOCK
D-2

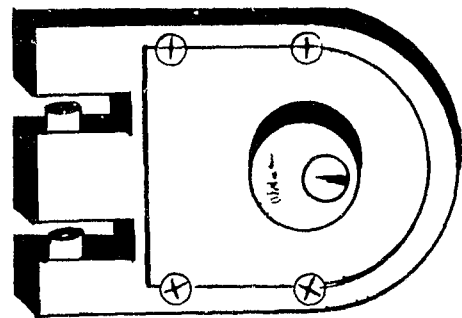
THE RIM LOCK is a 1" dead bolt lock which is installed on the inside surface of the door. It is less expensive than other types of locks, but equally effective for security.

WARNING
OUR PROPERTY IS MARKED



MEMBER - BLOCK SECURITY
VA. BEACH POLICE DEPT.

Put identification (your social security number is best) on all valuables. This reduces chances of theft when spotted by the burglar; it increases chances of recovery if you are a victim. Your police, or Virginia Beach Independent Insurance Agent may have engraving tools to loan—they are as easy to write with as a pencil and will write on anything. The tools can even be purchased for under ten dollars.



"JIMMY-PROOF" RIM LOCK
D-2

THE "JIMMY-PROOF" RIM LOCK is another lock which is installed on the inside surface of the door. But this lock has vertical dead bolts, which is an *additional security* approved locking device.

FLUSH BOLTS—Installed at the top and bottom of the inactive door of a pair of doors, flush bolts offer *additional security*, since the intruder cannot get at these devices to tamper with them if the doors are locked.



FLUSH BOLT

WARNING
OUR PROPERTY IS MARKED



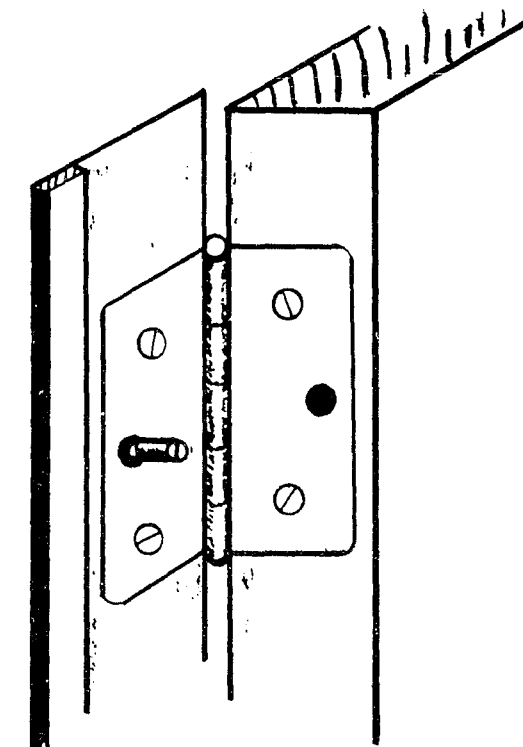
MEMBER - BLOCK SECURITY

Call your local police whenever a stranger seems to be hanging around. They can politely have a look. Get a license number if you can do it easily, but don't subject yourself to danger, or even embarrassment, by approaching a strange person or car.

HINGE PROTECTION

To protect your door from being lifted from its hinges by pulling the hinge pin, follow these simple steps:

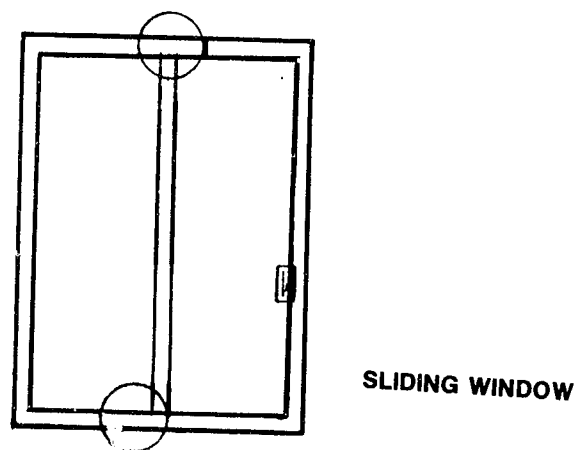
1. Remove two screws, opposite each other, from both leafs of your hinge.
2. Insert screw or concrete nail into jamb leaf-protruding 1/2".
3. Drill out the opposing screw hole in door. Do this in the top and bottom hinge of the door. When closed, the pins may be removed, but the door will remain firmly in place.



PINNED HINGE

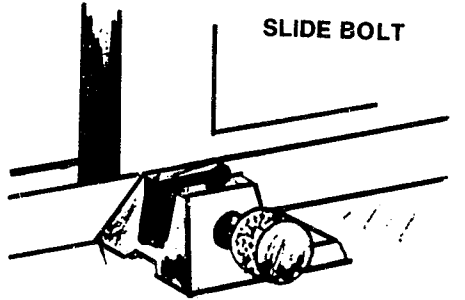
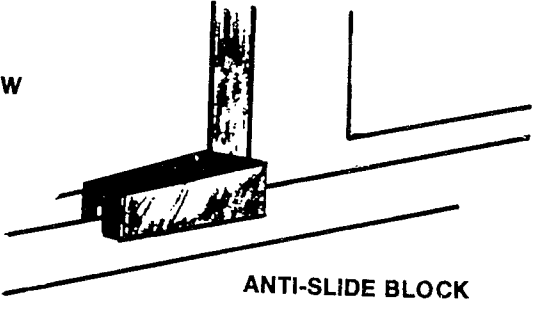
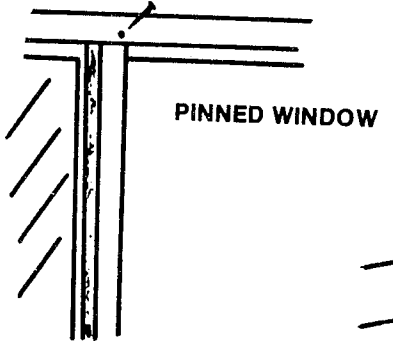
WINDOWS: Primary interest in securing windows is to eliminate entry by prying open. Most burglars avoid breaking glass, due to the fear of attracting attention.

WITH SLIDING WINDOWS the primary objective is to keep the window from sliding or being lifted up and out of the track.



SLIDING WINDOW

There are many manufactured products available for securing windows; here are some of the suggestions.



IT IS NOT RECOMMENDED TO LOCK A WINDOW IN A VENTILATING POSITION. This is an invitation to a prying action which can result in entry.

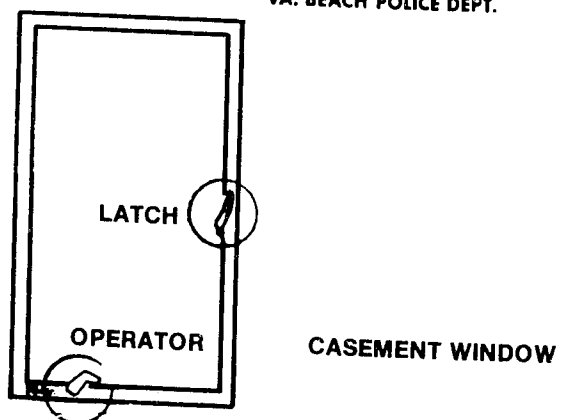
Key locking devices offer no real security and they can be a fire exit hazard.

WARNING
OUR PROPERTY IS MARKED

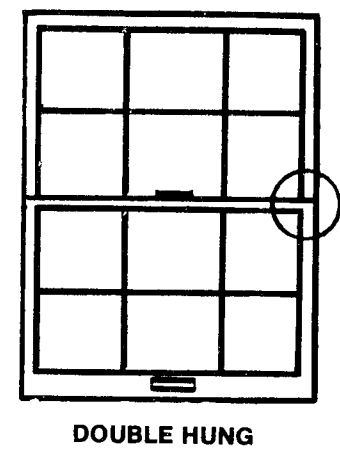


MEMBER - BLOCK SECURITY
VA. BEACH POLICE DEPT.

CASEMENT WINDOWS are the simplest to secure. Make sure the latch works properly and that the "operator" has no excess play. If so, replace the worn hardware.

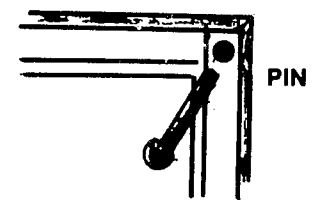
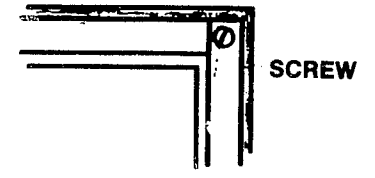


CASEMENT WINDOW

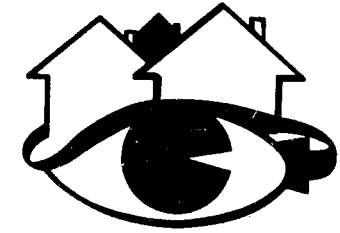


DOUBLE HUNG

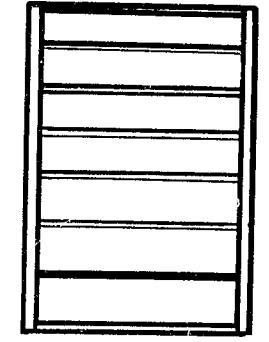
DOUBLE HUNG WINDOW latches may be jimmied open. If the window is not used, screw it shut (except bedrooms). For windows in use, drill a downward-sloping hole into the top of the bottom window through and into the bottom of the top window and insert a pin or nail.



WARNING
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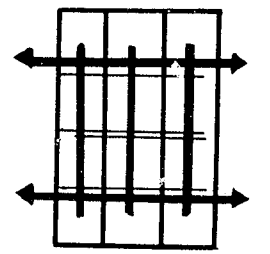


Did something seem odd about that salesman? Was that really a repairman with a wrong address? Your local police can easily find out if you just call them.

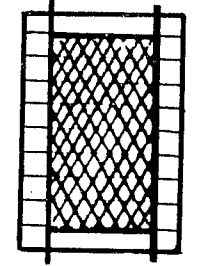


LOUVRE WINDOW

LOUVRE windows are bad security risks. Remove and replace with solid glass or other type of ventilating window. Or protect with a grate or grille (except bedrooms).



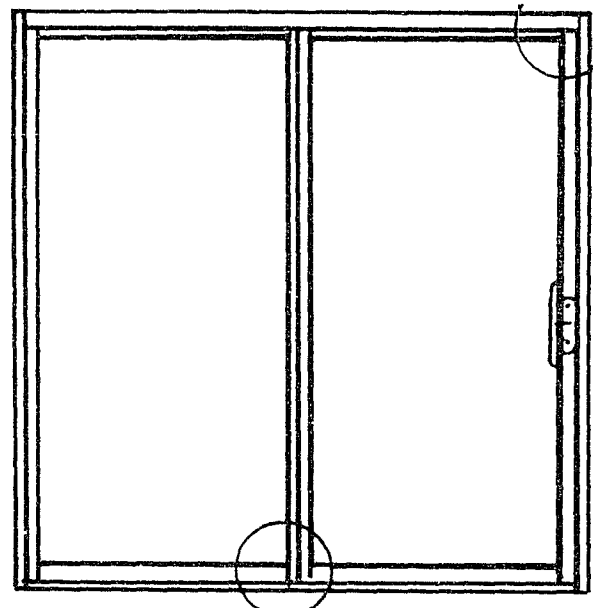
GRILLE



GRATE

Another good security measure is the use of ornamental iron gates and fencing for ground level entrances and yard protection.

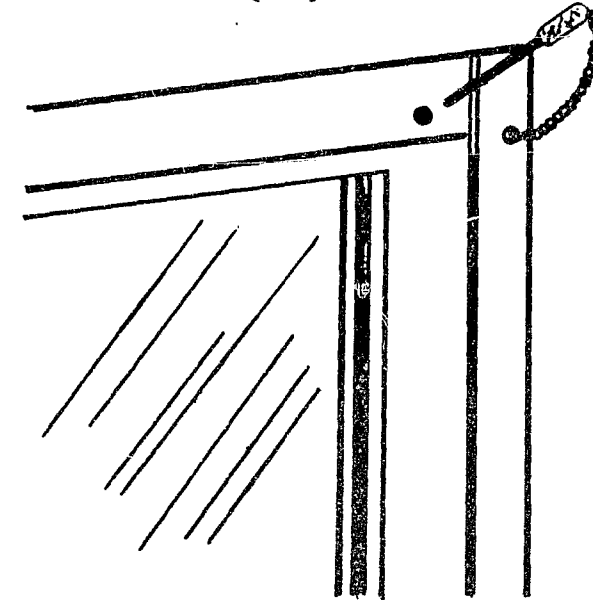
WARNING: One window in every bedroom on the ground and second floor must be left available as a fire exit, particularly for children and guests in your home. At night, the bedroom window may often be the quickest and safest means of getting out.



SLIDING DOOR

SLIDING DOOR: The purpose of securing a sliding door is to keep it from sliding or being pried up and out of the track.

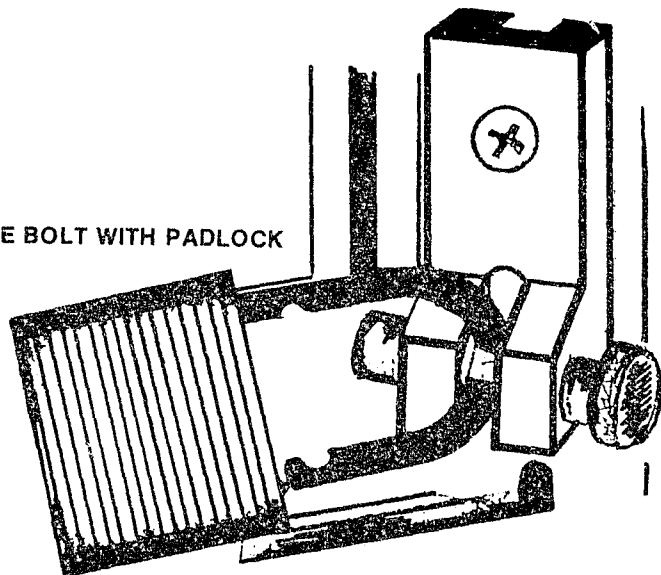
Look for adjustment screws at the top of the sliding door, or screw sheet metal screws into the upper track just enough to allow door to slide past but leaving enough screw protruding to prevent door from being lifted.



PINNED SLIDING PANEL

A simple way to secure an inside sliding door is to drill a downward sloping hole through the top channel into the top portion of the sliding door frame. Insert a pin as illustrated. This may be used as a **minimum security** method when the home is unoccupied.

SLIDE BOLT WITH PADLOCK



SLIDE BOLT

Another way to secure a sliding door is to install a slide bolt for **minimum security**. To offer **additional security** when your home is unoccupied, a padlock keyed to your front door may be added.

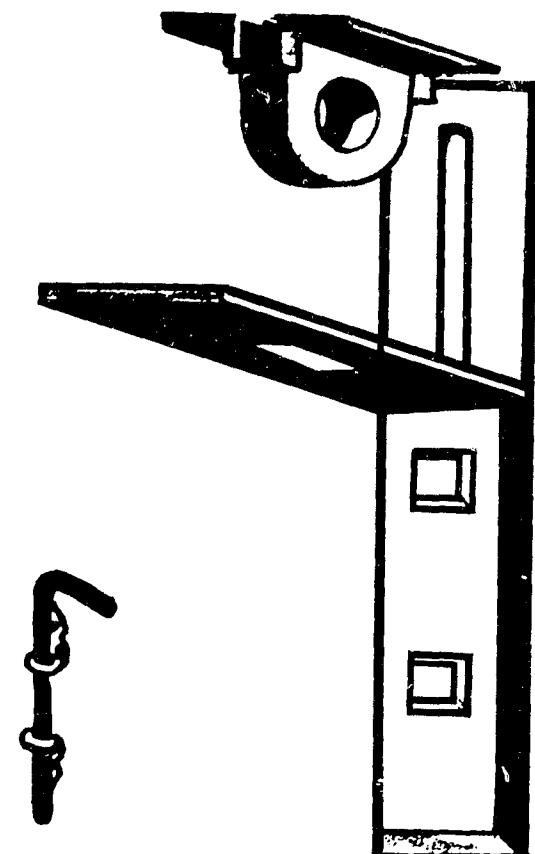
Of the many devices available for sliding doors, these offer the least expensive and most effective means of security.

Sticks and bars may be used, but any burglar can easily remove these. They offer no protection from the intruder making an easy exit with your household goods.

GARAGES: The single lock on the garage door is inadequate to keep intruders from prying up the opposite side and crawling in.

One of three methods may be used to secure the door:

1. Add another bolt and padlock to the opposite side.
2. Install a pair of cane bolts to the inside. (Note—these are operable only from the inside.)
3. Add a top center hasp, as illustrated. Any person of average height can operate this locking device.



SLIDING HASP
H-2



CANE BOLT
CB

HASPS: These must be of hardened steel and installed with carriage bolts through the door or gate. Use large washers on the inside. After the nuts are secured, deface the threads of the bolt ends with a hammer to keep the nuts from being removed.



HINGING HASP
H-1

In every case use a **minimum standard** exterior padlock as described on page 10.

WARNING
OUR PROPERTY IS MARKED

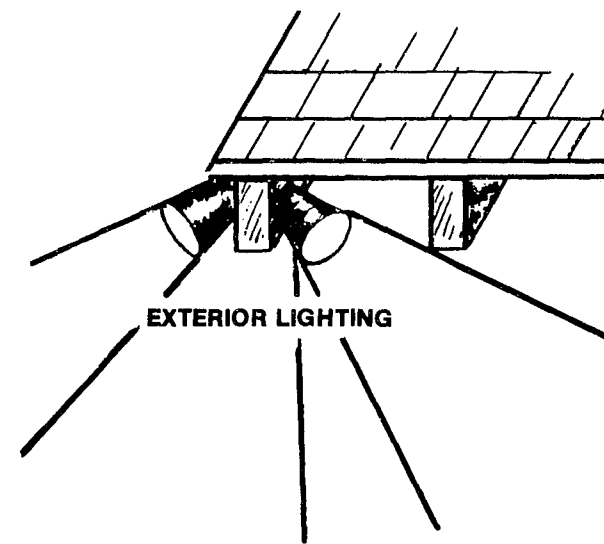
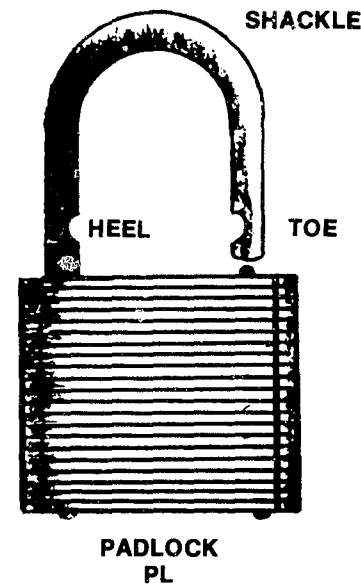


Don't hide a key outside. Most hiding places are obvious to the burglar.

PADLOCKS: There are many padlocks on the market from which to choose. Do not be guilty of economizing on a padlock that will not give you the protection you need. The most common assault on a padlock is with a large bolt cutter or pry bar. The following description, which you can take to the locksmith or hardware store, is the **minimum standard** for an exterior padlock:

1. Hardened steel, 9/32" shackle. (Naturally, heavier shackles offer additional security.)
2. Double locking mechanism-heel and toe.
3. Five-pin tumbler.
4. A key retaining feature, whenever possible. This prevents your removing the key until you have locked the padlock.

Never leave your padlock unlocked. This is an invitation to have the padlock removed so that a key can be made, and the lock returned to its position. Later the burglar returns when no one is home and enters at his leisure, using his key.

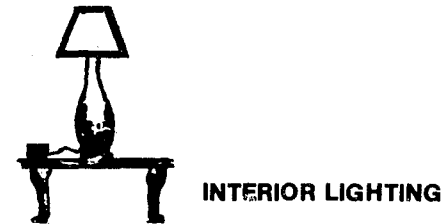
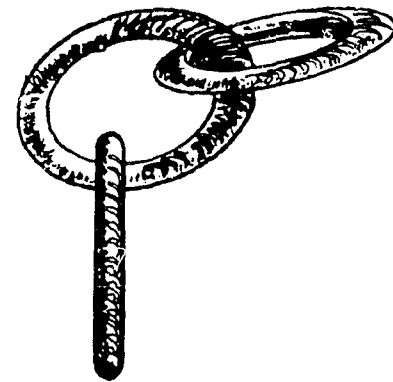


LIGHTING: Good exterior lighting is important, particularly when the yard area is obscured by high non-removable shrubbery. The best possible location for outside lights is under the eaves. This makes ground-level assault more difficult. You can buy an inexpensive timer or a photo-electric cell which will automatically turn the lights on at dusk and turn them off at dawn.

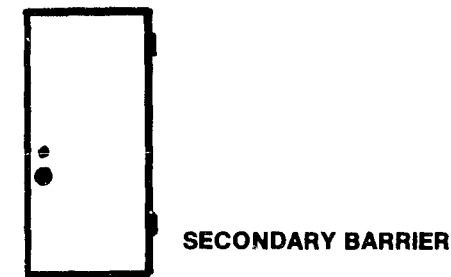
MINIMUM STANDARD FOR APPROVED CHAIN:

Must be of at least 5/16" hardened steel alloy. The link must be of continuous welded construction. Lighter chain or chain with open links simply will not withstand bolt cutting attacks. Don't give your bicycle away. Using anything less will invite the theft of your bike.

MOTORCYCLES: These expensive bikes require additional security measures. They must be secured with a mated 3/8" hardened steel alloy chain and padlock of equal strength. Sheathed cable has not proven a satisfactory deterrent to theft.



BURN A LIGHT AT NIGHT. The best source of interior lighting is a living room light, whether you are home or not. Again, use a timer or photo-electric cell to automatically turn the light on at dusk. The illumination coming from this source is sufficient to silhouette an intruder through many windows in your home. It is also confusing to the burglar as to whether you are away, at home, or asleep on the sofa.

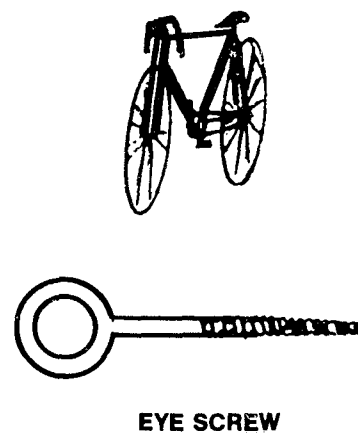


SECONDARY BARRIER: If the value of small personal items warrants protection, a secondary barrier is an additional safeguard. On a hinging closet door, install a 1" deadbolt lock. Store your jewels, furs, camera, guns, silverware, and other valuables behind this barrier. Be sure to pin the hinges. See page 5, "Hinge Protection."

Keep the burglar away from this vital target by the use of an alarm.

BICYCLES: You don't leave your car unlocked, so treat your bicycle the same way. Use an approved chain and padlock whenever you are not on the seat! Lock it to the garage—with a 3/8" x 6" eye screw fastened into a stud. The eye screw should be at least 3 feet above the floor, because this makes using a pry bar much more difficult.

Whenever you lock your bike in a public place, chain it to a secure rack or stanchion through the frame and a wheel. Keep the chain as high above the ground as the bike will allow. This reduces the leverage for a pry bar or bolt cutter attack.



ALARMS: There are many types of alarms on the market. Secure the services of a reputable alarm company. They will advise you of the best system to protect your home. Space detection methods are excellent. Physical contact methods are fair, but tend to send false alarms.

DON'T DEPEND ONLY UPON AN ALARM TO PROTECT YOU... BE SURE TO USE THE PROPER LOCKING DEVICES.

Any alarm system should include.

1. A battery failsafe back-up.
2. Fire sensing capability.
3. Read-out ability to check working of system.
4. Horn sounding device installed in attic through vent.

When shopping for an alarm, take this list with you.

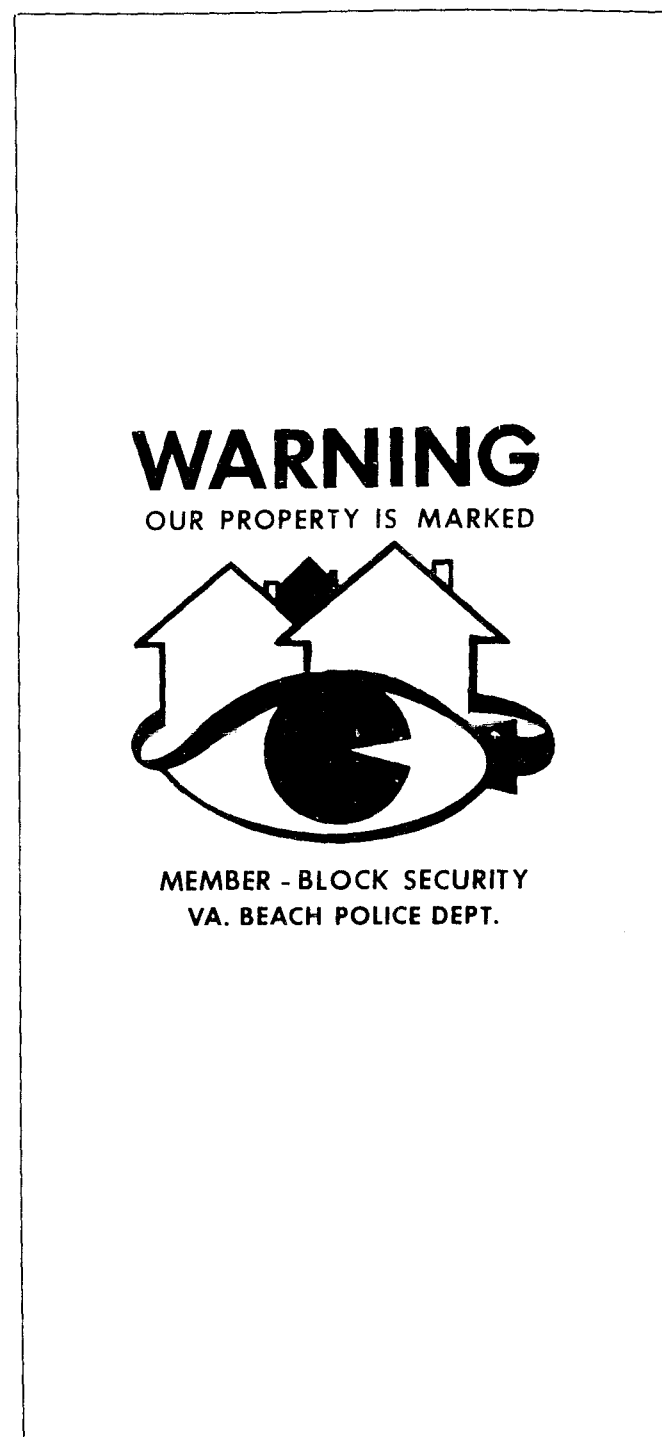
BE SURE TO LOCK BEFORE YOU LEAVE AND LET A NEIGHBOR HAVE A KEY.

**Put a thief out of business, join
"operation identification"**

**SOME HELPFUL HINTS IN USING
THE ELECTRIC ENGRAVER**

Your local Police Department or independent agent will loan you the use of an electric "pencil" which can carve your social security number on almost any substance. It doesn't work as easy as a crayon, so a little patience by you is required! We urge you to read the following suggestions before starting your engraving of valuable objects:

1. Use your social security number in marking all valuables. This makes for proof positive of your personal possessions. Use prefix of state in front of social security number. Example: VA 123402456.
2. The lighter the pencil pressure adjustment, the easier it is to use. In most instances you will be engraving light metal, so the light adjustment of your engraver will work best.
3. Your engraving should be as close to the appliance label as possible - but this isn't essential. Of most importance is your recording on your inventory list (reverse side) of where you put your number.
4. A smooth and unpainted metallic surface works best - though paint poses no problem where necessary. The more solid the backing of the surface the easier the engraver works.
5. Your social security number doesn't have to be in an orderly horizontal line. For example, on a bicycle or motor bike you can string the numbers out in a vertical line on some tubular part of the vehicle frame.
6. The bigger your engraved numbers, the easier it is. The underside or back of all appliances afford ample room for the engraving job without defacing the finished side of the object.
7. Don't let the engraver scare you! It sounds terrible, what with vibrating at an average 7,200 strokes per minute, but you can make a mistake without any problem - just start again! Remember, you will be doing your engraving job on the bottom or back of valuable articles where nobody but you will know the results.
8. When you complete the form, file it in a safe place. If any of the listed items are stolen or lost, notify your police department or sheriff's office immediately and show this form to the investigating officer. This information will increase the law enforcement agencies' chances of recovering your property and returning it to you.



WARNING

OUR PROPERTY IS MARKED



MEMBER - BLOCK SECURITY
VA. BEACH POLICE DEPT.

**SOME HELPFUL HINTS IN USING
THE ELECTRIC ENGRAVER**

Your local Police Department has loaned you the use of an electric "pencil" which can carve VA, and your social security number on almost any substance. It doesn't work as easy as a crayon, so a little patience by you is required! We urge you to read the following suggestions before starting your engraving of valuable objects:

1. Your social security number with the prefix VA are your positive identification. The VA prefix with your social security number insures positive and immediate identification.
2. If your license number and social security number are not the same, (does not apply to Virginia) then use the abbreviation of your state and the license number. Example; Florida - FL 123-44-67111.
3. The lighter the pencil pressure adjustment, the easier it is to use. In most instances you will be engraving light metal, so the light adjustment of your engraver will work best.
4. Your engraving should be as close to the appliance label as possible - but this isn't essential. Of most importance is your recording on your inventory list (reverse side) of where you put your number.
5. A smooth and unpainted metallic surface works best - though paint poses no problem where necessary. The more solid the backing of the surface the easier the engraver works.
6. Your license number doesn't have to be in an orderly horizontal line. For example, on a bicycle or motor bike you can string the numbers out in a vertical line on some tubular part of the vehicle frame.
7. The bigger your engraver numbers, the easier it is. The underside or back of all appliances afford ample room for the engraving job without defacing the finished side of the object.
8. Don't let the engraver scare you! It sounds terrible, what with vibrating at an average 7200 strokes per minute, but you can make a mistake without any problem - just start again! Remember, you will be doing your engraving job on the bottom or back of valuable articles where nobody but you will know the results.
9. When you complete the form, (reverse side) file it in a safe place. If any of the listed items are stolen or lost, notify the police department immediately and show this form to the investigating officer. This information will increase law enforcement agencies' chances of recovering your property and returning it to you.

WE HAVE JOINED....

OPERATION IDENTIFICATION

All items of value on these premises have been marked for ready identification by Law Enforcement Agencies.



The electric engraving tool has been provided in the interest of crime prevention by your Independent Insurance Agent.

MAKE, MODEL, SIZE, COLOR	Mfr. SERIAL NO.	WHERE MARKED
<i>Televisions</i>		
<i>Record or Tape Players</i>		
<i>Radios</i>		
<i>Other Small Appliances</i>		
<i>Typewriters</i>		
<i>Business Machines</i>		
<i>Lawnmowers</i>		
<i>Bicycles</i>		
<i>Outboard Motors</i>		
<i>Power Tools</i>		
<i>Hand Tools</i>		
<i>Guns</i>		
<i>Fishing Tackle</i>		
<i>Other Sporting Goods</i>		
<i>Musical Instruments</i>		
<i>Cameral and Equipment</i>		
<i>Auto Accessories</i>		
<i>Wheel Covers</i>		
<i>Tape Decks</i>		
<i>CB Radios</i>		
<i>Batteries</i>		
<i>Car Top Racks</i>		
<i>Other</i>		

PICTURES OF YOUR HOME MAY BECOME LIFESAVERS

FIRE, THEFT, ACCIDENTS - unpleasant things, but things that happen to the other fellow. NOT ALWAYS. THEY CAN HAPPEN TO YOU. And claims following such catastrophes can be difficult to prove.

Just how much did you improve the game room before the fire? Was the front walk in a dangerous condition? Was the stolen silver really that valuable?

Not pleasant subjects, but very important ones. Your camera can be your best friend in insurance and accident claims. The process is very simple:

Photograph your home, as it stands, and with emphasis on any additions. Photograph all - REALLY ALL - of your valuables. This means going from room to room to record furnishings; then, concentrate on such things as furs, jewelry, silver, china, antiques, books, appliances.

ONE FINAL PRECAUTION: When you have taken your photographs, mark each print with place and date, post them all to yourself via registered mail, leave the envelope unopened and put it in a safe place - AWAY FROM HOME. An unopened registered letter carries weight - and an accurate date.

WARNING

OUR PROPERTY IS MARKED



MEMBER - BLOCK SECURITY
VA. BEACH POLICE DEPT.

BLOCK SECURITY PROGRAM

I. Definition:

A Program involving the joint efforts of the Virginia Beach Crime Prevention Steering Committee, the Police Department, and the Community - designed to enhance neighborhood security, heighten the community's power of observation, and to encourage mutual assistance and concern among neighbors.

II. Need:

In recent years, neighborhoods have experienced rapid change. The old, well-established neighborhood has been replaced by a highly transient, growing community where people seek more and more privacy. This life style tends to promote unfamiliarity with neighbors and a corresponding lack of concern. Unfortunately, this enhances the opportunities for the criminal element and increases the community's vulnerability to crime. These conditions dictate the need for a Crime Prevention Program to intensify neighborhood security.

III. Objectives of the Block Security Program:

The main objective of Block Security is to reduce the incidence of crime by:

1. Increasing citizen's awareness of burglary and other neighborhood crime through a continuing information program.
2. Training citizens in the means to better property security and assist them in making their property more secure.
3. Developing a neighborhood action program where neighbors help watch each other's property and report suspicious persons and activities to law enforcement agencies.
4. Encouraging all citizens to cooperate with law enforcement agencies in reporting crime.
5. Enlisting each home/apartment in Operation Identification.

IV. Duties and Responsibilities:

A. Block Captain

1. Hosts a Block Security Meeting.
2. Personally visit each home/apartment unit in his/her block, distributing the invitations announcing the meeting and encouraging their neighbors to participate.
3. Acts as a base station for Operation Identification. In this manner, neighbors can pick up Operation Identification materials from their Block Captain in order to participate in the Program. The goal - 100% participation - is essential and in order to achieve this goal, the Block Captain is encouraged to personally contact those neighbors who have not participated in the Program.
4. Acts as a liaison with the Police Department and the Virginia Beach Crime Prevention Steering Committee and disseminates any information communicated to him which may lead to the solution of a crime.
5. Distributes crime prevention materials to those residents who were unable to attend the meeting.

B. Block Watchers

1. Act as eyes and ears for your neighbors and report any suspicious activity.
2. Studies crime prevention materials furnished to them.
3. Checks neighbors' homes when out of town.
4. Cooperates and assists the Block Captain.
5. Secures their homes in compliance with recommendations in home security booklet.
6. Participates in Operation Identification.

V. Program Materials Available:

- A. BLOCK SECURITY - This brochure describes the Block Security Program and how it works.
- B. BLOCK SECURITY CHART - This map records the name and phone numbers of the immediate neighbors of the Block Watchers. This information aids the Watcher in knowing his neighbors.
- C. WHAT IS SUSPICIOUS - This leaflet gives the Block Watcher an insight to suspicious activities to be reported to the police.
- D. YOU CAN - HELP STOP BURGLARY - This booklet explains to the homeowner how to secure his/her home.
- E. HOW TO BUY A LOCK - This pamphlet discusses some of the considerations and things to look for when buying a locking device.
- F. "BLOCK SECURITY DECAL" - Warning decals for windows/doors to announce that the occupants are members of Block Security and their valuable possessions are all marked for easy identification by police agencies.
- G. INVENTORY - Pamphlet for recording valuable items and serial numbers.

BECOME AWARE - BECOME INVOLVED

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WHAT IS SUSPICIOUS?

Your Virginia Beach Police Department cannot function effectively without the concerned assistance of responsible citizens. We are depending on YOU to call and report all suspicious persons or actions.

Some people fail to call us simply because they are not aware of what seemingly innocent activities might be suspicious. Others may notice suspicious activity and be hesitant to call for fear of seeming a "nosey neighbor" or a "crank". Still others take it for granted that someone else has already called.

CALL THE POLICE - 427-5000 - IMMEDIATELY about all suspicious activity and DO IT YOURSELF! Don't worry about 'bothering' us because this is what we are for. Don't worry about being embarrassed if your suspicions prove unfounded, but think instead about what could happen if you don't act.

INFORMATION MOST OFTEN NEEDED: What happened? When did it happen? Where did it happen? Was anyone hurt?

DISCRIPTION OF PERSON(S): (Include clothing). When describing suspects, notice age, race, sex, height and weight. (Compare your own weight and height with the suspect's.) Pick out some unique characteristics (scars, nose, jewelry, etc.) which will help you identify the suspect in the future if need be.

DESCRIPTION OF VEHICLE: License number, make, model, color, any noticeable damage, direction of travel.

SOME OF THE OBVIOUS THINGS TO WATCH FOR:

Basically, anything that seems even slightly 'out of place' or is occurring at an unusual time of day could be criminal activity.

--A stranger entering your neighbor's house when it is unoccupied may be a burglar

--A scream heard anywhere may mean robbery or assault

--Offers of merchandise at ridiculously low prices could mean stolen property

--Persons entering or leaving a business place after hours could mean burglars

--The sound of breaking glass or loud noises could mean an accident, housebreaking, or vandalizing

--Persons loitering around schools, parks, secluded areas or in the neighborhood, could be sex offenders

--Persons around the neighborhood who do not live there could be burglars

SOME NOT SO OBVIOUS THINGS TO WATCH FOR

Not every stranger who comes into your neighborhood is a criminal. There are many perfectly legitimate door to door salesmen, repairmen, and servicemen moving around our neighborhoods all the time. But criminals do take advantage of this by assuming the guise of legitimate business representatives. After all, if a criminal looked like a criminal, no one would have any trouble spotting him/her.

Check identification of all solicitors, meter readers, and repairmen prior to allowing entry into your house. Be suspicious of an alleged deliveryman with a wrong address or a repairman who was not called.

If someone is going door to door in your neighborhood, watch for a while. If, after a few houses are visited, he or she tries a door, looks into windows, or goes into the side or back yard, it could be a burglar. Call the Police IMMEDIATELY! 427-5000. Do not wait for the person to leave!!

Someone carrying property, if it's at an unusual hour or in an unusual location, the person is running with the property, or a large amount of human traffic to and from a certain residence on a daily or very regular basis, especially during late or unusual hours, could possibly be the scene of vice activities or a "fence" operation.

Parked, occupied vehicles containing one or more persons at an unusual hour, could be possible lookouts for a burglary in progress, illegal business transactions may be conducted from the vehicle, and if juveniles are involved, it could mean possible drug sales.

An abandoned vehicle parked on your block may be a stolen car.

While this list points out many suspicious situations, it is by no means a complete record of all the instances that can occur, and while some, if not all of the above situations could have innocent explanations, your police department would rather investigate a crime-prone situation than be called when it is too late.

YOUR CALL COULD SAVE A LIFE - PREVENT AN INJURY - OR STOP A CRIMINAL ACT. BE ALERT!

BE A GOOD NEIGHBOR

BECOME AWARE - BECOME INVOLVED

Virginia Beach Police Department
Crime Prevention Section
427-4146

**WHEN LEAVING YOUR HOME
PRACTICE THE FOLLOWING
ADVICE—IT WILL
PAY DIVIDENDS**

GOING TO THE MARKET OR OUT TO DINNER...?

A residence which presents a lived-in appearance is a deterrent to burglars.

Never leave notes which can inform a burglar that your house is unoccupied.

Make certain all windows and doors are secured before departure. An empty garage advertises your absence, so close the doors.

When going out at night, leave one or more interior lights on and perhaps have a radio playing. Timers may be purchased that will turn lights on and off during your absence.

Do not leave door keys under flower pots or doormats, inside an unlocked mailbox, over the doorway, or in other obvious places.

WHEN PLANNING VACATIONS OR PROLONGED ABSENCES...

Discontinue milk, newspaper, and other deliveries by phone or in person ahead of time. Do not leave notes.

Arrange for lawn care and have someone remove advertising circulars and other debris regularly. On the other hand, several toys left scattered about will create an impression of occupancy.

Notify the post office to forward your mail or have a trustworthy person pick it up daily. Apartment house tenants could also heed this hint as stuffed mail receptacles are a giveaway when no one is home.

Inform neighbors of your absence so they can be extra alert for suspicious persons. Leave a key with them so your place may be periodically inspected. Ask them to vary the positions of your shades and blinds.

Have the telephone temporarily disconnected. Burglars may try calling to find out whether anyone is in.

When you leave, do not publicize your plans. Some burglars specialize in reading newspaper accounts of other people's vacation activities.

If you find a door or window has been forced or broken while you were absent. **DO NOT ENTER.** The criminal may still be inside. Use a neighbor's phone immediately to summon police or sheriff.

Do not touch anything or clean up if a crime has occurred. Preserve the scene until the police or sheriff can inspect for evidence.

**REMEMBER TO:
LOCK BEFORE YOU LEAVE
TRUST A NEIGHBOR WITH A KEY
BE A CONCERNED NEIGHBOR**

WARNING

OUR PROPERTY IS MARKED



MEMBER - BLOCK SECURITY
VA. BEACH POLICE DEPT.

The electric engraving tool may be checked out at any police precinct or any member of Virginia Beach Association of Independent Insurance Agents.

This booklet courtesy of

**VIRGINIA BEACH
POLICE DEPARTMENT**

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Should you or your organization desire a lecture or demonstration, contact our Crime Prevention office at 427-4146.

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END