

## Residential Crime Prevention Tips

- Don't leave a "hidden key" outside, under the doormat, in a flower pot, etc.
- Don't grow hiding places by allowing plants to become too large, covering windows.
- Don't allow strangers into your home. Burglars may act lost, request a drink of water, or want to use your phone. Verify IDs of service workers.
- Create the appearance of someone being home. Don't simply leave all the lights on. Use timers or leave a television on when you leave your home. Remove mail and newspapers daily.
- Do routine walkthroughs to check the exterior of your home and yard to see if anything is out of place.
- Install motion sensor lights or dusk to dawn lights. Lights should illuminate what you're trying to protect, not your neighbor's house.
- Start a Neighborhood Watch Group. This will help organize and encourage neighbors to get involved. If you're interested in starting a group, contact the Community Coordinator.

## If your home is burglarized:

- Do NOT enter your home! – the perpetrator may still be inside.
- Use a cell phone or a neighbor's phone to call the police.
- Don't touch, clean up, or repair anything until the police have inspected the area for evidence.
- Note the descriptions of any suspicious vehicle(s) or person(s) in the area.



### Metro Police Department

200 James Robertson Pkwy.  
Nashville, TN 37201

**Emergency: Dial 911**

**(Non-emergency) Phone: 615.862.8600**

**Police Info: 615.862.7400**

**Web address:**

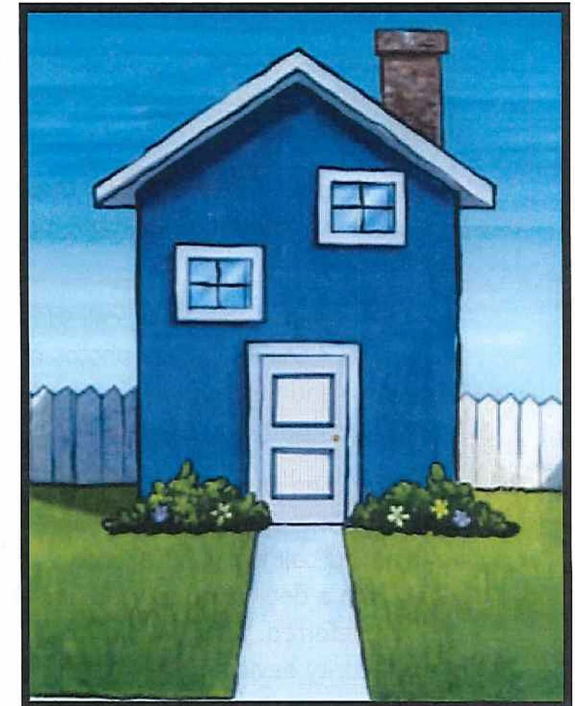
**[www.nashville.gov/Police-department.aspx](http://www.nashville.gov/Police-department.aspx)**



## METRO POLICE DEPARTMENT



**You are the eyes and ears of Nashville**



## Burglary Tips

**Be Aware  
Be Smart  
Be Safe**

## Home Burglary Tips

Burglars search for a home that can be easily, quickly, and silently entered. Many homes can be made more secure with little difficulty or expense. The following tips may help make your home less attractive to a thief.

- DO watch your neighbor's property. If you see suspicious activity, notify the Metro Police at 615.862.8600 and give the following:

*Location, number of suspect(s), race, age, clothing, vehicle description, and tag number.*

If it's a burglary in progress, call 911. If possible, COVERTLY take photos of suspect(s) and vehicle(s).

Do NOT confront the suspects!

- DO strengthen all door and locks – solid core or metal door with double keyed dead bolt locks, little or no glass, with a door jamb as solid as the door is preferred. Consider a door jamb security device or use two dead bolts to spread the force needed to force the door open.
  - DO install a wide angle peephole to view visitors before access is granted.
  - DO lock, latch, or bolt windows.
  - DO use care when using social media and avoid posting that you are or will be away from your home.
  - Don't leave tools, ladders, storage containers, or furniture that can assist a burglar with accessing your home.
- DO lock up your home when outside cutting grass or working in the yard. Burglars drive around looking for an opportunity and may just walk inside.
  - DO consider a large dog. The size of the dog is not nearly as important as the amount of the noise it makes when a burglar is lurking about.
  - Put away items, such as a vacuum cleaner, that could be used by a thief to corral a dog into a bedroom.
  - Use "Beware of Dog" signs. Simply posting a sign and leaving a large pet food or water dish visible can work to discourage an intruder, even if you don't own a dog.
  - DO consider lawn care and house sitters while on vacation or during extended absences.
  - DO routine alarm tests. Contact your alarm service and inform them you are going to test the alarm system. This will ensure the alarm signal is being received. Place alarm stickers or signs at each door.
  - DO consider safes. Hidden, attached, bolted down, or heavy high quality gun safes are preferred.
  - DO consider recorded surveillance cameras with remote monitoring that view the interior and exterior of your home. Post video monitoring signs.

## Additional Resources

- **Always give the reporting officer the correct phone number and email address for the report.**
- **How to obtain a report number:**  
The officer will provide a report number at the time of the report. If you would like a copy, call Metro Police Records Division at 615.862.7631.
- **Report additional stolen items:**  
Report additional stolen items by calling the Non-Emergency number at 615.862.8600.
- **If you locate your stolen property at a pawnshop, yard sale, or online:**

Contact the Non-Emergency number at 615.862.8600. You'll need the original report number, receipts, and serial numbers.



**Metro Police Department**  
**Midtown Precinct**  
**1441 12<sup>th</sup> Ave South**  
**Nashville, TN 37203**

**EMERGENCY: 911**  
NON EMERGENCY: 615.862.8600  
INFORMATION: 615.862.7400  
CRIMESTOPPERS: 74-CRIME  
(615.742.7463)

Midtown Precinct 615.880.1411  
Midtown Community Coordinator 615.880.1350  
Midtown Investigations 615.880.1511