



### Public Safety Services Division – Crime Prevention Unit

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## Burglary Prevention

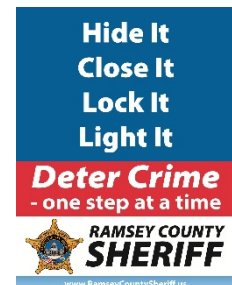
Criminals usually enter homes the easiest way they can – through unlocked or open doors, garage doors or windows. Home burglaries often occur during the day, although night-time thefts from garages are also common. Please keep a watchful eye out and call 9-1-1 immediately if you see or hear anything suspicious.

### Examples of suspicious activity:

- People lurking around who do not belong, looking in windows of homes or vehicles, or who seem to be hiding from passing traffic
- A person carrying tools or property that doesn't fit the setting in your neighborhood
- A vehicle running with a driver waiting inside
- The sound of breaking glass

### Steps to reduce the chances of becoming a victim of a home burglary:

- Keep your overhead garage door closed at all times
- Lock all exterior doors, including garage services doors -- even when you are home
- Keep windows closed and locked – install locks on all doors and windows
- Add adequate lighting on all sides of your home and garage - consider installing dusk to dawn lighting on the front of your home and motion lights in the back and on the garage
- Check the identification of anyone coming to do work on your home
- Consider placement of storage sheds; they may allow access to second story windows
- Trim trees and shrubs that could hide a burglar breaking into your home or garage
- Remove yard items such as ladders, chairs or trellises that could be used to climb to upper story windows
- If you have a security system, use it, even while you are home
- If you see anything suspicious in your neighborhood, immediately call 911



### Keep the Relaxation in Vacation: burglary prevention while you are away

Vacations are supposed to be fun and relaxing. Being prepared is the best way to make sure you stay safe while traveling, however, vacation safety needs to start before you even leave home. Follow the above steps, and:

- Arrange to have someone check on your home for you while you are gone and keep up with lawn care, snow removal, mail, newspapers, and garbage
- Make sure that individual also has a way to get in touch with you in case of an emergency

By reporting suspicious activity, you may prevent someone from becoming a victim or you may help the police apprehend a criminal.