

Home Security Basics



Safety

There are simple things you can do to keep you and your family safe. Personal safety is influenced by:

- Convenience
- Habit
- False sense of security



Basic Home Security

- The Derby Police Department offers a free home safety survey.
- A police officer will check the inside and outside of your house for any potential dangers
- Target Hardening
- Creating Witness Potential



Lighting

- Motion lights are a great low cost tool for home security.
- Adequate lighting provides intended victims, neighbors, walkers and joggers, and police officers the opportunity to see suspicious activity around your home.
- Plain flood or decorative styles can range from \$20 to \$50.
- Inside lights on timers will give the illusion that someone is home.

Motion Lights



Good vs. Poor Lighting

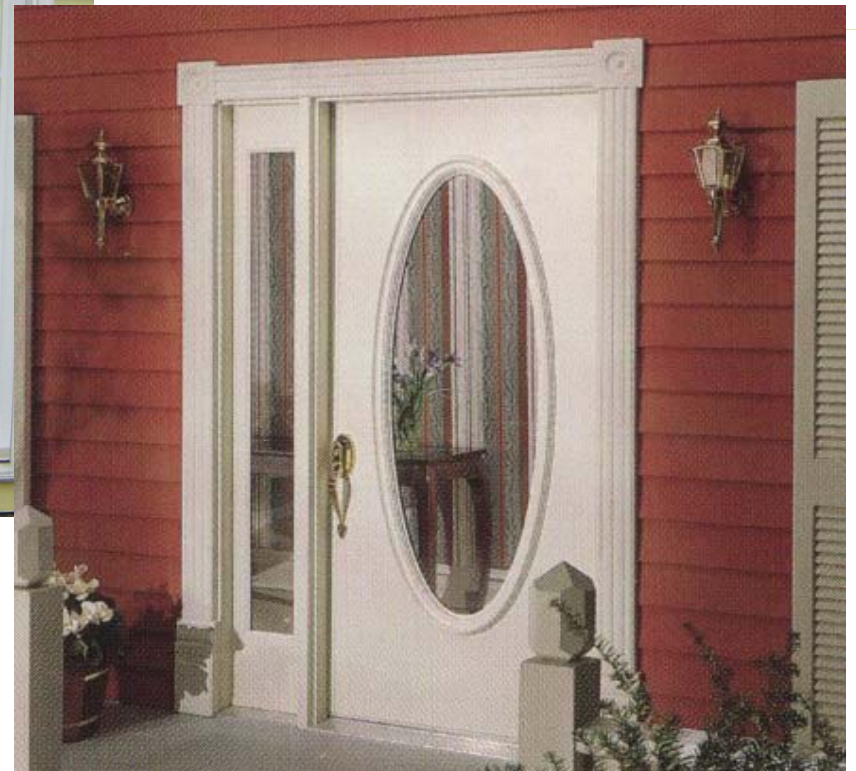




Doors and Locks

- Keep doors and windows locked, especially if you are home alone.
- Use re-enforced strike plates.
- Install solid core doors on exterior of home.
- Make sure you have peep hole on solid doors.
- Install double keyed deadbolt on doors with windows.
- Make sure deadbolts have at least a one inch throw.

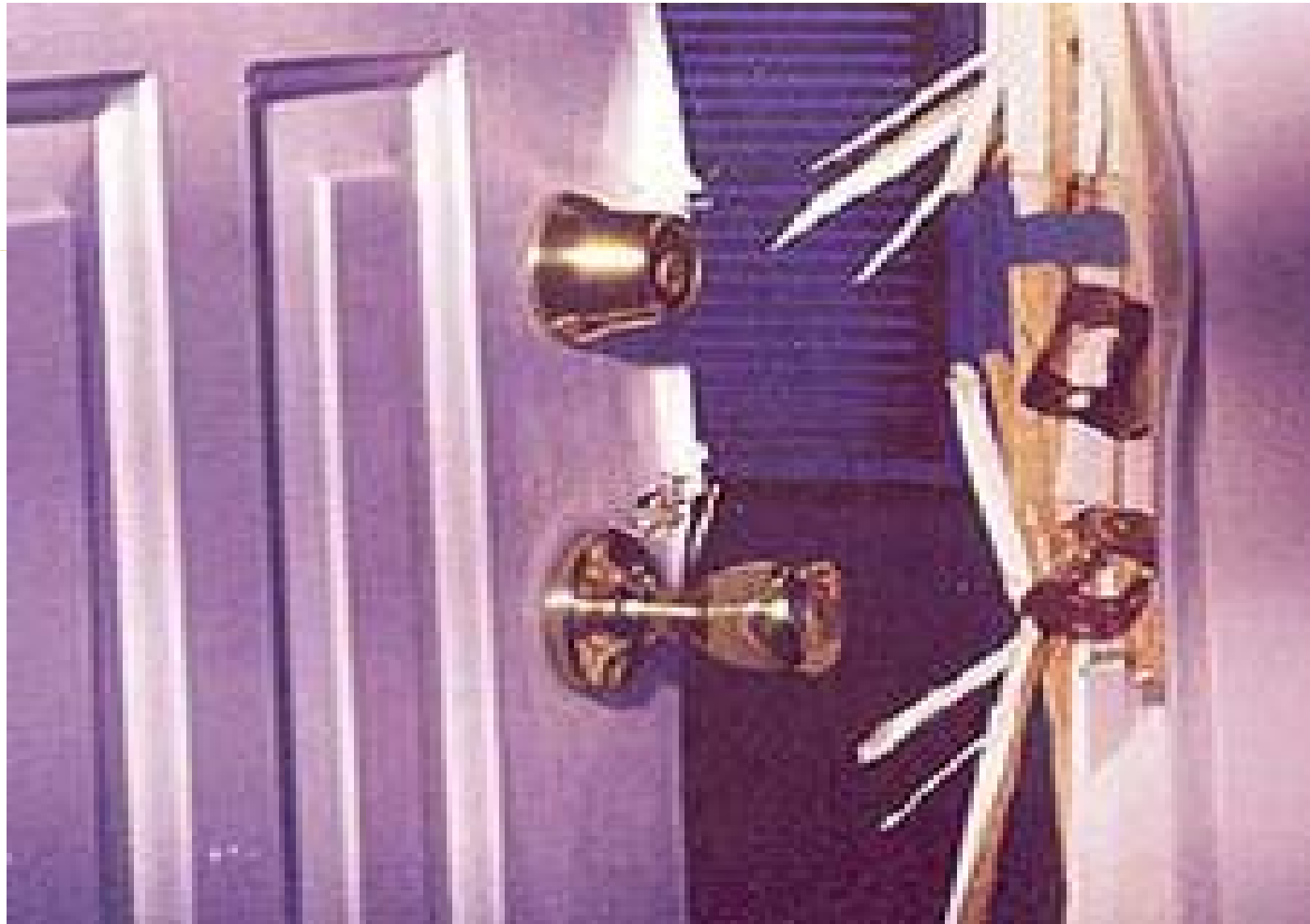
Doors with windows



Strike Plates and Deadbolts



Kicked in Door with Deadbolt

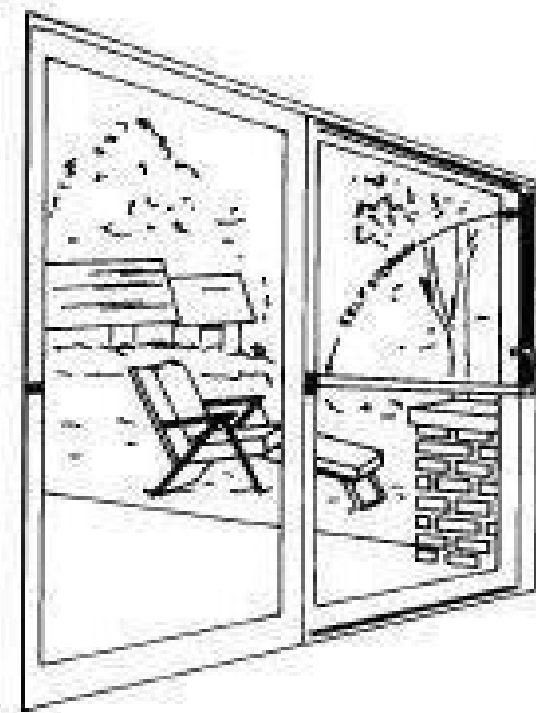




Windows and Sliding Glass Doors

- Use Charley Bars-manufactured or cut dowel rod.
- Use window pins-manufactured or drill in carriage bolts
- Use pan head screw to prevent sliding glass doors from being lifted out of track.

Charley-BAR



**Makes Sliding Glass
Doors Jimmy-Proof!**

Window Pins





Keep Landscaping Well-Trimmed

- Keeping shrubs and trees trimmed helps create witness potential.
- Neighbors can see suspicious activity around your house.
- You will also be able to see out of your house for possible suspicious activity.

Landscaping: Before & After



Landscaping: Before & After





Garage Doors

- Popular spot for theft
- Keep door closed and locked when it is not in use.
- Curtains on windows will prevent “window shopping” and knowledge that someone is not home.

- Door leading into the house should be locked.
- Electric door openers provide good security.
- Unplug openers when you are going to be away from home for an extended period.
- Wait to open or close door until you are secure in your car.
- Vacation home checks available when you are away from home.

Open vs. Closed Garage Door





Personal Safety

- A criminal needs three things to make you a victim:
 - Desire – Motivated by many things.
 - Ability – The means to commit the crime (tools, weapons, etc.)
 - Opportunity – The “chance” to commit the crime.
- *You only have control of the opportunity.*



Safety in Numbers

- Taking one person with you reduces your chance of being a victim by 70%.
- Taking two people with you reduces your chance of being a victim by 90%.



Other Simple Tips

- Be aware of your surroundings.
- Know where you are and who is around you.
- Try to avoid isolated areas. It is more difficult to get help if no one is around.
- Walk with purpose.



More Tips

- Trust your instincts. If something doesn't feel right it probably isn't.
- When shopping, try not to load yourself down with packages or bags.
- Make sure your cell phone is charged.
- Avoid putting music headphones in both ears.



Questions?

For further information or a free home safety survey please contact:

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