



www.TRLock.com

IS YOUR HOME SECURE?

By Jim Everett

Some little-known statistics:

1. Most burglaries are committed in broad daylight, nearly one-third of which take place through unlocked doors or windows.
2. Some illegal entries occur by use of a former occupant's key.
3. Approximately half of all forced entries are made without the use of a tool.
4. The average time spent entering a home to commit a burglary is less than three minutes.
5. Neighborhood Watch and home security go hand in hand.
6. The addition of good locks and increased security measures require the burglar to take more time and more noise to enter. This increases the likelihood that neighbors will notice and call 911.

How can I check to see if my home is secure?

1. Are all exterior doors (including the garage) strong enough to withstand excessive force?
2. Are exterior doors secured with a deadbolt lock that has a minimum one-inch throw?
3. Are all strike plates and frames for each door strong enough to withstand excessive force?
4. Are sliding glass doors and windows secure against forcing the locks or lifting the doors out of their frames?
5. Are garage doors secured (overhead and side door leading into garage)?
6. Are double-hung windows secured with pins or extra locks to discourage prying?
7. If moving to a new residence, did you hire a reliable locksmith to re-key all exterior doors? If possible, have the locksmith make one key to fit all locks. Protect your new investment and its contents.

Jim Everett, a retired Dover Township Police Lieutenant, is owner of Toms River Locksmith.