



**CITY OF CLEVELAND**  
Mayor Frank G. Jackson



## Residential Security Survey Checklist

If you're locked out of your home, can you still get in? Through an unlocked window in the back, or using an extra key hidden under a flowerpot or up on a ledge? If you can break in, so can a burglar!

Although this checklist will not make your home burglar proof, it will result in suggestions that may help improve your home protection.

Yes	No	<i><b>Exterior of the Home</b></i>
		Is your address clearly visible from the street?
		Are entry areas free of shrubbery and other items to permit visibility by your neighbors?
		Are trees and shrubs trimmed to eliminate hiding places?
		Can lights be compromised by simply unscrewing the light bulb?
		Are lights controlled by motion detection?
		Does outdoor lighting cover entire perimeter of the structure?
		Does outdoor lighting illuminate the house numbers?
		Have you removed anything with your name on it from the outside of your house?
		Are telephone and electrical lines located in a way that makes them easily accessible?
		Are outside service boxes secured (phone, electrical, etc)?
		Are detached structures (garages/sheds) properly secured/locked?
		Are there privacy fences that offer to high a degree of seclusion? If so, have you taken precautions such as an alarm system?
		Are alarm signs visible?
		Are alarm company decals on windows and points of entry?
		Does property have a well maintained appearance?

Yes	No	<i><b>Windows</b></i>
		Are all windows equipped with locks or pinned?
		Can windows left open for ventilation be secured?
		Are windows locked properly and firmly mounted?
		Do you keep the windows locked when they are shut?
		Are there window air conditioning units?
		Are window air conditioner anchored to prevent removal from outside?
		Have screws been installed in the tracks of sliding windows to prevent them from being lifted out?
		Do you have curtains or blinds covering garage windows?
		Are there good, secure locks on garage windows?

Yes	No	<b>Doors</b>
		Do doors fit tightly within their frames?
		Have the locks been changed or re-keyed since the last occupant?
		Are the locks in good working condition?
		If there is an alarm, does it cover perimeter windows and doors as well as motion?
		Are all the keys to the house accounted for?
		Are exterior doors solid core construction?
		Are there 180 degree wide-angle viewers on the exterior doors?
		Can all doors, including upper floor, be properly secured?
		Have sliding doors been tailored to keep them from being lifted out of the track?
		Can the overhead garage door be properly secured? (a padlock at the very least)
		Do you lock the garage door leading to the house?
		Are garage door openers left in cars that are parked outside the garage?
		If there are glass panes in or near doors, are they reinforced to prevent them from being shattered out?
		Do doors and windows allow an easy escape in the event of an emergency?

Yes	No	<b>When Going Away</b>
		Do you leave in a way so that the typical person would not be able to tell you're leaving? Pack the car out of sight.
		Do you notify someone to watch your house?
		Do you arrange for friends or a neighbor to pick up your mail, newspaper and other deliveries?
		Have you left both work and/or vacation numbers with a trusted individual so that you can be contacted in case of an emergency?
		Have you made provision for lawn care/snow removal?
		Are timers in place for interior lighting, radios, etc...?
		Did you turn the phone ringer and answering machine down to low?
		Do you park halfway down your driveway so it looks like someone is home and makes it more difficult for thieves to load things up?
		Have valuables been placed in uncommon areas instead of the obvious spots?

Yes	No	<b>Miscellaneous Issues</b>
		Do you keep an inventory of valuables and is it secured in a safe place?
		Does your inventory include photographs and a record of serial numbers for valuable items?
		Do you have emergency numbers listed by or on your phone?
		Do you shred personal information instead of putting it out in the trash?
		Do you maintain a cell phone?
		Do you practice safety drills with your family?
		Are firearms unloaded and locked away safely?
		Do you vary your daily routine occasionally?
		Are insurance policies kept up to date?

If you have questions after completing the survey, please call the Bureau of Community Policing at (216) 623-5080 and an officer will gladly assist you.