

## Vacations

- Have someone pick up your mail and paper or have them stopped.
- Use timers on your lights.
- Have a trusted neighbor watch over your property.

## Alarms

Alarms provide additional security beyond the basic measures recommended in this brochure. You should consider an alarm system that best suits your needs and lifestyle. If you have an alarm, be sure it is properly maintained.

## Home Security Audits

The Henrico Police Division's Crime Prevention Unit offers **FREE** home security audits to Henrico residents. If you would like an audit of your residence, please call 501-5933.

## Neighborhood Watch

Join your community's Neighborhood Watch or start one in your area. For more information, call 501-4838.

*Report all crime to the police, no matter how minor or embarrassing. Help us help you!*



The Police Division is Internationally Accredited.

Henrico County Police Division  
P. O. Box 90775  
Henrico, VA 23273-0775

Emergency: 911  
Non-emergency: (804) 501-5000  
[henrico.us/police](http://henrico.us/police)

Eric D. English  
Chief of Police



Proud of our progress;  
Excited about our future.

The County of Henrico does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, or disability.

Spring 2021/PIO/TB



*What you need to know about securing your home to improve your quality of life and reduce your fear of crime.*



Report all suspicious activity!  
Call the Henrico County  
Police Division at

501-5000  
or  
911—Emergency only

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Henrico County  
Police Division



# Home Security



Even though nothing can make your home completely “burglar proof,” the following tips are designed to increase the security of your home. Security devices are only effective if used **correctly** and **consistently**.

## Exterior

- Street numbers should be highly visible from the street.
- Shrubs should be trimmed below window levels, and tree limbs should be removed to a height of six feet (6’).
- Lock all gates, sheds, and crawl spaces.
- For attached garages, make sure the door leading from the garage into the house is also locked.
- Ladders or tools should be securely locked.
- Light all sides of your home, or at least the main entrances.
- Motion detectors, dusk-to-dawn sensors, and/or timers are ideal for lighting.



## Interior

- Dead bolt locks are recommended.
- Install wide angled peepholes.
- Keep windows locked.
- Close curtains at night to keep valuables out of sight.
- While away, leave a radio tuned to a talk radio station so that voices can be heard inside.
- Never have your answering machine message saying that you are not at home.
- Turn the volume down on your answering machine so someone outside won’t hear it answer.

## Valuables

- Mark or engrave all valuables.
- Take pictures or video of valuables.
- Keep a log of serial numbers.
- Keep the log, video, and pictures at another location, such as a safe deposit box or a relative’s home.

## Locks

- Strong, reliable locks are essential.
- Use deadbolts with a minimum of a one inch (1”) throw.
- Reinforce strike plates with extra-long mounting screws.

## Locks (continued)

- Use double-cylinder deadbolts for doors with glass within 40 inches of the lock so an intruder cannot break the glass and unlock the door.

## Windows/Sliding Glass Doors

- Keyed locking devices are available for both.
- Pin double-hung windows by drilling a hole through the top frame of the lower window partially into the frame of the upper window. Then, insert a nail or eyebolt.
- Sliding glass doors can be pinned as well.
- Adjust sliding glass door track clearances so they can’t be pushed out of their tracks.
- Put a piece of wood or a metal bar in the track of the closed door to prevent it from opening.

## IMPORTANT NOTE

When securing doors and windows, allow for fire escape routes. Be sure all family members know how to unlock doors and windows. Check and follow local fire codes when installing security locks on doors and windows.