

How secure is your home—really? Have you ever gone through, room-by-room, to assess any possible security weaknesses? More importantly, have you addressed and remedied any weaknesses you identified?

Take a few minutes, using this checklist, and go through your home, room-by-room, step-by-step. Check off your answers as you go. Answers in the shaded column indicate security weaknesses and should be addressed as soon as possible to help "harden the target" and make your home less attractive to burglars.

Outside

- Are all the exterior doors of metal or solid wood construction? Yes No
- Are the doorframes strong enough and tight enough to prevent forcing or spreading? Yes No
- Are door hinges protected from removal outside? Yes No
- Are there windows in any of the doors, or within 40" of the locks? No Yes
- Are all the doors secured by a deadbolt lock with a minimum 1" throw? Yes No
- Are strikes and strike plates adequate, and properly installed with 3" screws? Yes No
- If there are no windows in the door, is there a wide-angle viewer or voice intercom device? Yes No
- Can the lock mechanism be reached through a mail slot, delivery port, or pet entrance at the doorway? No Yes
- Are there screens or storm doors with adequate locks? Yes No
- Are all the exterior entrances lighted with at least a 40-watt light? Yes No

- Can the front entrance be seen from the street or other public areas? Yes No
- Does a fence, the porch or landscaping offer concealment from view from the street or other public areas? No Yes
- For sliding glass doors, is the sliding panel secured from being lifted out of the track? Yes No
- Is a "charley bar" or key-operated lock used on the sliding glass door? Yes No

Garage and Basement

- Are all entrances to the living quarters from the garage or basement of metal or solid wood construction? Yes No
- Do those doors have locks adequate for exterior entrances? Yes No
- Are all exterior pedestrian doors to the garage or basement of metal or solid wood construction? Yes No
- Do those doors have locks adequate for exterior entrances? Yes No
- Does the garage vehicle door have an adequate locking device? Yes No
- Are garage windows secured adequately for ground level windows? Yes No
- Are tools, ladders, and other equipment kept in the garage instead of outside? Yes No

Ground Floor Windows

- Do all windows have adequate locks in operating condition? Yes No
- Do the windows have screens or storm windows that lock from the inside? Yes No

