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### Course Objectives

- Participants will learn the importance of securing their property and making criminal acts more difficult to commit
- Participants will build skills to assist them in target hardening
- Participants will learn methods to protect themselves and their neighborhoods

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### Reaching a Target

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## Home Burglaries: Statistics

- 1,352,258 residential burglaries:
  - 378,370 at night
  - 697,153 during the day
  - 277,735 unknown time
- Burglaries of residential properties accounted for 70.3% of all burglary offenses
- Victims of burglary offenses suffered an estimated \$4.6 billion in lost property

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## More Statistics

- More than 51 percent of residential burglaries occurred during the daytime while homeowners were away at work or running errands.
- Seven out of every ten burglaries were of residences.
- Research indicates that most burglars will work no longer than 60 seconds to get into a home.

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## Target Hardening at Home

- Target hardening increases security and decreases victimization.
- Burglary is a crime of opportunity. The more obstacles that are in the way, the less likely that the crime will occur.



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## Assessing the Threat

The homeowner must determine what kind of threat he or she is trying to protect against.

Defending against personal threats (such as assault) requires different measures than defending against burglary.

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## Assessing the Threat

assault  
sexual assault  
burglary  
home invasion  
robbery  
theft  
vandalism

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## Determining Specific Threats

Community  
Neighborhood  
Home



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## Basic Home Target Hardening Techniques

- Doors
- Locks
- Windows
- Lighting
- Appearance
- Alarms
- Garages
- Helpful Hints

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## Assessing the Structure

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## Doors

- All exterior doors should be metal or solid wood and have strong door hinges on the inside of the door, with hidden or non-removable pins.
- Install good quality deadbolt locks on all exterior doors and any doors from attached garages.

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## Doors, cont.

Install impact resistant glass in any location within 42" of a door lock.



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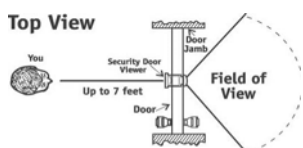
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## Door Viewers

- Door areas should be well lighted and doors should have a wide-angle viewer to see who is outside without opening the door.



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## Doors - General

- Properly install doorframes on all exterior doors, and doors from attached garages, so they cannot be spread apart.
- Install security-type door strikes on all exterior doors.



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## Sliding Glass or Patio Doors

- Secure sliding glass doors with a metal rod or something sturdy in the track. Installing vertical bolts will also help prevent burglars from forcing the door open or lifting it off the track.



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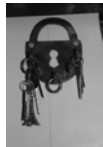
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## Locks

- Always lock all doors and windows when you leave the house. Believe it or not, many burglaries occur when doors and windows are left unlocked.
- Do not provide your house keys to service people.



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## Locks

- Install strong, reliable deadbolt locks that extend at least one inch when in the locked position.
- Consider double cylinder deadbolts (key inside and outside) or deadbolts with reinforced strike plates and extra long mounting screws to anchor the lock.



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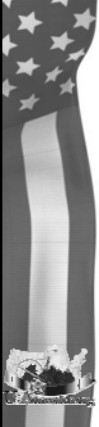
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## Windows



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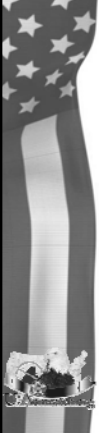
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## Types of Windows

- Vertical sliding (double hung) windows
- Horizontal sliding windows
- Casement windows
- Awning windows
- Louvered windows
- Sashless or semi-sashed windows



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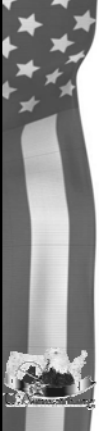
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## Assessing Windows

- What are the weak points?
- What is the access from the ground, porch, roof, tree, fire escape, ledge?
- Is the glass shatter resistant?
- What is the state of repair of the sash and frame?
- Are the locking mechanisms functional and are they engaged?
- Is the surrounding area well lit at night?

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**Window Locks or Bars**

- Window locks or bars may be used to increase security, especially on all windows that are accessible from the ground.



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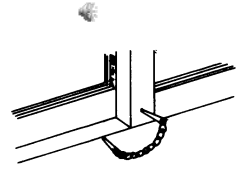
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**Window Pins**

Nails or pins can help secure windows



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**Windows**

- For windows with tracks, a small block of wood placed in the track can prevent the window from being opened.
- Impact resistant glass is an option for basement windows. Basement windows are an often-used access point.



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## Lighting



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## Lighting - Interior

- Use automatic timers all of the time, not just when you are away.
- Utilize specialty lighting in high security areas



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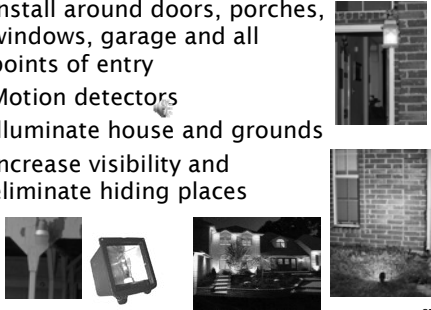
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## Lighting - Exterior

- Install around doors, porches, windows, garage and all points of entry
- Motion detectors
- Illuminate house and grounds
- Increase visibility and eliminate hiding places



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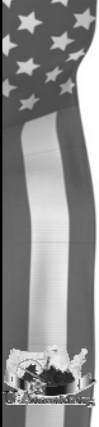
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## Lighting Audit

Use the LIGHTING AUDIT tool to assess the lighting around a home



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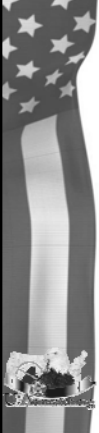
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## Appearance

- Direct visitor traffic by design
- Plant thorny bushes
- Trim shrubs and trees
- Cut back tree limbs
- Use landscaping to provide maximum visibility



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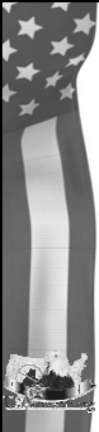
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## Alarms

- Use audible on-site alarm and/or flashing lights to attract attention
- Post alarm signs on the property, stickers on the windows
- Make sure your alarm is monitored 24 hours a day
- Use detectors at all entrance points, and motion detectors in high-priority areas

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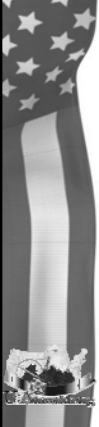
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## Garages

- Always lock the door (house) to an attached garage.
- When at home, always park your cars in the garage with the garage door shut.
- Install automatic openers that will allow you to stay in your car until safely parked in the garage.



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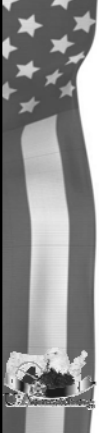
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## *“Hello, is anybody in there?”*

***When you're not at home, make it look like somebody's there.***

- Leave a radio on
- Close curtains but leave lights on
- If on vacation, have a neighbor pick up newspaper and mail



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## *“We're not home right now”*

***Never let people know when your home will be empty.***

- Don't let strangers know
- Check your answer machine message



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***“Hey, look what I got!”***

***Avoid advertising your expensive purchases.***



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***“Key to Success”***

***Don't let burglars use your spare key!***



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***“Making a list and checking it twice”***

- Make a list of your property
- Mark your property with ID number
- Take photos of expensive items
- Make sure of current insurance coverage



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***“Tools of the Trade”***

- Lock up your tools and your shed
- Dispose of large rocks or bricks



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***“Animal Patrol”***

***Consider a four-legged  
“burglar alarm.”***

- Burglars avoid homes with dogs.
- A “beware of dog” sign may still deter a burglar.



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**Conclusion**



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