

MELROSE POLICE DEPARTMENT

HOME SELF-ASSESSMENT SECURITY CHECKLIST

EXTERIOR DOORS

Yes No

Our house number is clearly displayed, in large block numbers, preferably at right of the front door, and is visible at night, so emergency vehicles police and fire can find the house quickly in the event of an emergency.

Locks have been re-keyed since we moved in.

Do we know who has keys to the house?

All doors are locked at night and every time we leave the house -- even if it's just for a few minutes.

Doors are solid hardwood or metal-clad.

Doors feature wide-angle peepholes at heights everyone can use.

If there are glass panels in or near our doors, they are reinforced in some way so that they cannot be shattered and sheers or other method of restricting visibility has been applied.

All entry ways have a working, keyed entry lock and sturdy deadbolt lock installed into the frame of the door.

Spare keys are kept with a trusted neighbor, **not** under a doormat or planter, on a ledge, or in the mailbox.

GARAGE AND SLIDING DOOR SECURITY

Yes No

If the garage door works on a remote, is the remote removed from the vehicle when the vehicle is parked outside.

The door leading from the attached garage to the house is solid wood or metal-clad and protected with a quality keyed door lock and deadbolt.

Are the windows in the garage kept locked and covered.

The overhead garage door has a lock so that we do not rely solely on the automatic door opener to provide security.

Garage doors are all locked when leaving the house.

The sliding glass door has a strong, working key lock and a Charlie bar to prevent rocking the door from its track.

A dowel or a pin to secure a sliding glass door, both top and bottom, has been installed to prevent the door from being shoved aside or lifted off the track.

The sliding door is locked every night and each time we leave the house.

PROTECTING WINDOWS

Windows are always locked, even when they are opened a few inches for ventilation.

We close the blinds or curtains after dark so anyone driving by cannot view all we own.

Basement windows have some type of covering so someone walking around the house cannot see in.

OUTDOOR SECURITY

Outgoing mail is not left in the mailbox for pickup.

Shrubs and bushes are trimmed so there is no place for someone to hide.

Yes No

There are no dark areas around our house, garage or yard at night that would hide prowlers.

Every outside door has a bright, working light to illuminate visitors.

Our porch light is kept on from dusk to dawn.

Floodlights are used appropriately to ensure effective illumination.

Outdoor lights (front porch or entry) are on in the evening – whether someone is at home or not or a photocell or motion-sensor lighting system has been installed.

SECURITY WHEN AWAY FROM HOME

At least two light timers have been set to turn the lights on and off in a logical sequence when we are away from home for an extended time period.

The motion detector or other alarm system (if we have one) has been activated when we leave home, every time.

When away from home for an extended period, arrangements have been made with neighbors to pick up newspapers and mail.

A neighbor has been asked to tend the yard and watch our home when we are away.

A trusted neighbor or friend is able to reach us in the event of an emergency.

OUTDOOR, VALUABLE AND PERSONAL PROPERTY

Gate latches, garage doors, and shed doors are all locked with high-security padlocks.

Gate latches, garage doors, and shed doors are locked after every use.

Grills, lawn mowers, and other valuables are stored in a locked garage or shed, or if left out in the open, are hidden from view with a tarp and securely locked to a stationary point.

	Yes	No
Every bicycle is registered with the Melrose Police Department or the serial number has been recorded.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Every bicycle is secured with a good quality lock such as U lock in the garage or the shed and the garage and shed are securely locked.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Bicycles are always locked even if we leave them for just a minute.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Firearms are stored unloaded and locked in storage boxes and secured with trigger guard locks.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Valuable items, such as televisions, stereos, DVDs and computers have been engraved with initials or an identifying number.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Our home inventory is up-to-date and includes pictures. A complete copy is kept somewhere out of the house.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Important papers such as passports, birth certificates, death certificates, savings bonds, stock certificates, deed to the house, title to the car, are kept in a safe deposit box or in a fireproof security box.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Planning has been given to how we will respond in the event of a fire, power outage, natural or national disaster.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
When hiring contractors only hire licensed and insured contractors.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>