

# **BURGLARY PREVENTION CHECKLIST FOR HOMES**

This checklist was designed to help you make a security survey of your own home. The first purpose of home security inspection is to identify features in your home or daily routines of your family that might make your home an easy target for a burglar. The security inspection should begin at your front door, and include an inspection of **all** your doors and windows, locks, lights and landscaping.

- 1. Are all outside doors in the house of metal or solid wood construction?**
- 2. Are all exterior doors equipped with single cylinder deadbolt locks?**
- 4. Are door frames strong enough and tight enough to prevent forcing or spreading?**
- 5. Are all door locks adequate and in good repair?**
- 6. Are all exterior doors equipped with heavy-duty strike plates with a minimum of 3" screws to secure it?**
- 7. Has the hole in the doorjamb, surrounded by the strike plate, been drilled at least 1" deep?**
- 8. Can the locking mechanism be reached through a mail slot, delivery port or pet entrance at doorway?**
- 9. Is there a screen or storm door with an adequate lock?**
- 10. Are all entrances lighted with at least a 40-watt light?**
- 11. Are outside lights controlled by timers or photo-electric cells, for automatic operation?**
- 12. Can front entrance be observed from street or public area?**
- 13. Do you know everyone who has a key to your residence?**
- 14. Have you had your locks re-keyed?**
- 15. Does porch or landscaping offer concealment from view from street or public area?**
- 16. If there is a sliding glass door, is the sliding panel secured from being lifted out of track?**

**17. Is "charley-bar" or key operated auxiliary lock used on sliding glass doors?**

## **BASEMENTS**

**18. Are all entrances to living quarters from garage, porch, balcony and basement of metal or solid wood construction?**

**19. Does door from basement to living quarters have an adequate lock operated from living quarters side?**

**20. Is there a door from outside to the basement?**

**21. If so, is that door adequately secure for an exterior door?**

**22. Is outside basement entrance lighted by exterior light of at least 40 watts?**

**23. Is outside basement door concealed from street or neighbors?**

**24. Are all basement windows adequately secured against entrance?**

## **WINDOWS**

**25. Do all windows have adequate locks in operating condition?**

**26. Do windows have screens or storm windows that lock from inside?**

**27. Do the windows opening to hazardous areas or offering increased risk of burglary have additional security?**

**28. Do windows that open to hazardous areas have security screens, grills or bars that open from the inside?**