


Home Target Hardening Class


Keep your home safe from potential break-ins. See the [notes](#) from the meeting with the Commerce City Police Department on target hardening your home.



Target Hardening for the Home

Neighbors to Neighbors
Community Training

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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 neighborhood


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Target Hardening at Home

- Burglary is a crime of opportunity. The more obstacles that are in the way, the less likely that the crime will occur.
- The homeowner must keep in mind that each house design is different and requires a different approach.


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Statistics on Home Burglaries

- According to the FBI crime reports, in the time it takes you to read this sentence, on burglary will be committed in the U.S.
- One out of six homes will be burglarized this year, with an average loss of \$1,280.00.
- In more than 85% of household crimes, stolen property is not recovered.


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Statistics on Home Burglaries

- 60% of residential burglaries occurred during the daytime while homeowners were away at work or running errands.
- Two out of three burglaries were to residences.
- Research indicates that most burglars will work no longer than 60 seconds to enter a home.

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Basic Home Target Hardening Techniques

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

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Doors

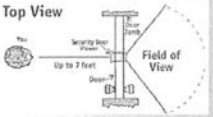
- All exterior doors should be metal or solid wood and have strong door hinges on the inside of the door with hidden or non removable pins.
- Install good quality deadbolt locks on all exterior doors and doors leading from attached garages.

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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


- 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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Locks

- Install strong, reliable deadbolt locks that extend at least one inch when in the locked position.



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Windows


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Window Locks and 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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Lighting



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Lighting

- Interior
 - Use automatic timers all of the time, not just when you are away. Periodically change up the timing pattern.
 - Utilize specialty lighting in high risk areas.

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Lighting Exterior

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



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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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Alarms


- Use audible on-site and/or flashing lights to attract the attention of neighbors.
- Post alarm signs.
- Use detectors at all entrance points, and motion detectors in high priority areas.



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Garages

- Always lock the door connecting the house to an attached garage
- When at home, always park your cars in the garage with the garage door shut.



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 **Hello, is anybody in there?**

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

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

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 **Hey look what I got**

- Avoid advertising your expensive purchases.



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 **Keys**

Do not let burglars use your spare key.

- Where is yours hidden, flower pot, under the mat, cute little hidden rock, or on top of the door?
- Leave a key with a trusted friend or neighbor.


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 **Make a list and check 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.
- Clean up and dispose of large rocks bricks that can be used to smash a window or break in a door.

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 **Animal Patrol**

- Consider getting a four legged "burglar alarm"



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