

AUTO THEFTS ON THE RISE: WHAT CAN YOU DO?

Auto theft and break-ins are increasing. Here are ways to prevent your vehicle from being targeted:

Park smart.

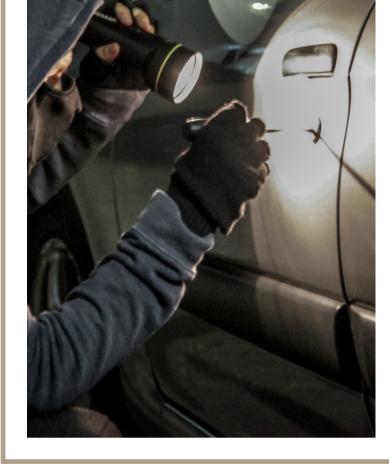
Park in well-lit areas, and well-trafficked, to help deter theft and car break-ins. When at home, parking inside a garage or locked, gated area will also help protect your vehicle.

Don't leave valuables in the car.

Luggage, purses, valuable items, and even change are enough to entice a thief to attempt to break into your car. Whenever possible, bring all items of value inside with you. If not possible, store away in the trunk and hidden from sight.

Never leave keys in your vehicle or your car running unattended.

It may seem like common sense, but it's a surprisingly common way thieves steal cars. Even if you're in your driveway, never leave your keys in the car and your car running unattended. This is the easiest way for a thief to jump in and drive away in the blink of an eye.



Lock all doors and windows.

Never leave your doors unlocked or windows rolled down, even cracked open. Make it a habit to double check that all windows are rolled up and your car door is locked.

Do not leave spare keys in or near your vehicle.

Keep your keys on your person. Give a spare key to someone you trust in case of an emergency or leave the spare at home.

Install anti-theft devices for your car.

One of the best ways to deter theft is to install a car alarm system. Other options include steering wheel and pedal locks and vehicle immobilizers. A GPS tracking device will also help recover your vehicle if it's stolen.