Home Safety Checklist

This home safety checklist is a great way to spot weaknesses in your home security. For a more in-depth explanation of each section visit the **home security survey** page.

For valuable advice concerning home security systems, your family's safety, and practical do-it-yourself tips and techniques, visit **www.do-it-yourself-home-security-systems.com.**

Home Perimeter & Exterior

	Yes	No	N/A
Does the house look well maintained and lived in?	☐	☐	☐
Are there any trees or shrubs hiding the doors or windows?	☐	☐	☐
Are the trees and bushes trimmed so that there is no place for someone to hide?	☐	☐	☐
Are there any climbing places that would allow a burglar easy access to the upper level of the house (tree, drainpipe, ladder, shed, etc)?	☐	☐	☐
Do the exterior lights provide enough illumination for the doors and windows at night?	☐	☐	☐
Are the lights controlled by a photo-electric cell instead of a manual switch?	☐	☐	☐
Are the light fixtures fitted with motion detectors to light up when someone approaches the house?	☐	☐	☐
Are your address numbers 4-6 inches tall and clearly visible from the street?	☐	☐	☐
Are there locks on the exterior utillity boxes (telephone, cable, electricity) to avoid tampering?	☐	☐	☐
If there is a fence around the property, is the gate locked?	☐	☐	☐
If there is a stand alone structure on the property (like a shed, or a a garage), is it locked?	☐	☐	☐

Sliding Patio Doors

	Yes	No	N/A
Can the doors be lifted off the bottom tracks from the outside?	☐	☐	☐
Are the patio doors always kept locked?	☐	☐	☐
Is there a security bar across the middle of the doors to prevent them from being opened from the outside?	☐	☐	☐

Exterior Entrance Doors

	Yes	No	N/A
Are the exterior doors made of solid wood or encased metal?	☐	☐	☐
Do the exterior doors fit snug into their frames?	☐	☐	☐
Are the door frames solid enough to prevent a forced entry?	☐	☐	☐
Can the door hinges be removed from the outside?	☐	☐	☐
Are the exterior doors fitted with solid, double cylinder, quality dead bolt locks?	☐	☐	☐
Do the doors have windows, mail slots, or pet entrances within 40 inches of the locks?	☐	☐	☐
If you open the mail slot in the middle of the door, can you see into the interior of the house?	☐	☐	☐
Are the exterior doors fitted with wide angle peep holes so as to see who's knocking before you open?	☐	☐	☐
Are the exterior doors fitted with a voice intercom system?	☐	☐	☐
Are the exterior door lock strike plates fixed to the door frame with 3 inch screws?	☐	☐	☐
Are the doors kept locked even even you're home?	☐	☐	☐

Garage

	Yes	No	N/A
Is there a lock on your garage door (if you don't have a garage door opener)?	☐	☐	☐
Do you keep the garage door locked even when your home?	☐	☐	☐
Are the windows of the garage textured, frosted, or blocked off so no one can look in?	☐	☐	☐
Do you remove the keys from the vehicle when you park in the garage?	☐	☐	☐

Windows	Yes	No	N/A
Do the basement windows have burglar bars or security grills installed?	☐	☐	☐
Do the windows have security pins or key locks installed?	☐	☐	☐
Are the windows locked even when they're left opened only a few inches to circulate fresh air into a room?	☐	☐	☐
Are window mounted unit air conditioners securely fixed onto the frame so as to avoid removal from the outside?	☐	☐	☐
When you are not home, are the windows covered so as to prevent someone from looking in?	☐	☐	☐

Alarm System	Yes	No	N/A
Does the home have an alarm system installed?	☐	☐	☐
Is the alarm system monitored by a central station alarm company?	☐	☐	☐
In the case of a power failure does the alarm system have a back-up battery supply?	☐	☐	☐
In the even of telephone line failure, does the alarm system have a cellular telephone back-up system?	☐	☐	☐

Away From Home	Yes	No	N/A
When you're away from home, is there someone who will routinely collect your mail for you?	☐	☐	☐
Have you arranged that the grass will be cut or that the snow will be removed on a regular bases?	☐	☐	☐
Have you provided friends and family with emergency telephone numbers where you can be reached?	☐	☐	☐
Have you installed light timers to automatically turn on the lights in the evening?	☐	☐	☐
Have you informed trusted friends and neighbors of your absence and when you will be returning?	☐	☐	☐
Have you provided a trusted family member with a key to your home in the event of an emergency?	☐	☐	☐

The questions you've answered **NO** to are areas in your home security you need to improve. Visit **www.do-it-yourself-home-security-systems.com** for valuable home security advice, tips and techniques.

Note: This home safety checklist is provided only as a guide. It provides no guarantee against burglaries, break-ins or criminal activity.