

Suspicious Activity

Always keep aware of your surroundings in your neighborhood. Many times criminals are able to blend in. If you see someone acting suspicious - do not hesitate to call police. You may help catch a potential criminal.

Things to look for:

- Pulling door handles
- Looking in windows
- Odd clothing for the time of year (e.g., long coats or gloves being worn in the summer)
- Lookouts
- Nervous looking (looking all around, moving slowly or quickly)
- Checking alarms by bumping or hitting the windows or bumpers for sensitivity

Auto Burglary Can Lead to Other Crimes

Garage door openers, house keys or vehicle registrations left in your car can lead to identity theft and residential burglary.

Vehicle Registration - Photocopy your registration and black out the address. Keep the copy, not the original, in your car.

Mail - Do not leave outgoing or incoming mail in your car, especially where visible. This has your name and address on it.

Garage Door Opener - Avoid leaving this in your vehicle if possible.

Keys - Never leave keys in your car.



**ST. PETERSBURG
POLICE
DEPARTMENT**

**EMERGENCY
911
NON-EMERGENCY
893-7780**

To learn more about Auto Burglary or to arrange for a free Auto Burglary prevention seminar for your organization contact:

ST. PETERSBURG POLICE DEPARTMENT
COMMUNITY AWARENESS DIVISION
727-893-7128

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police.stpete.org

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Preventing Vehicle Burglary



Tips for protecting your vehicle from burglary



St. Petersburg Police Department
police.stpete.org

Vehicle Burglary

Lock It or Lose It

Vehicle Burglary is a Crime of Opportunity

Who provides the burglar with the opportunity?

The **victim** provides the burglar with the opportunity by leaving their vehicle **unlocked** or their **window open**.

Most thefts occur when valuables are left unattended. The property stolen is left in plain view where anyone walking by the car can see it.

This crime can be prevented by taking a few steps to make your car unattractive to potential criminals.



SECURE
YOUR VALUABLES

LOCK
YOUR CAR

TAKE
YOUR KEYS

Commonly Stolen Items

- Purses/Wallets
- GPS
- CDs & CD cases
- Keys & remotes
- Jewelry
- Check Books
- Prescription Drugs
- Cameras
- Credit/Debit cards
- Lap-top Computers
- Cell Phones & chargers
- Firearms
- Money
- Gym Bags
- Garage Door Openers
- Briefcases
- Tools

Prevention Tips

- **Lock your car** -The majority of vehicles burglarized are unlocked
- **Park in well-lighted areas** - Many vehicle burglaries occur at night
- **Hide or remove all valuables from vehicle**- Items in the open make your car a bigger target
- **Close windows, doors and tops**

- **Alarm it** - There are a number of vehicle alarms that will do the trick. If you alarm it—advertise it; put an alarm sticker on the window.

Limit what you leave in your car.
Secure/remove what you can.
Lock it.
Alarm it.



- **Take your garage door opener with you when leaving your vehicle** - If someone steals it, then they can open your garage and possibly access your home through the interior door.
- **Install an anti-theft device**

Lawn trailers and equipment are particularly susceptible to theft. Remember to:

- **Lock and secure all equipment and trailers**
- **Engrave all equipment with your driver's license number to make it easily identified**