

## Home Safety and Security

If you are locked out of your home, can you still get in? Do you have a key “hidden” outside your home, or an open or unlocked window, or a weak lock that can be broken? If you can break in, so can a burglar!

A small amount of time and a small investment on security items such as deadbolts and timers can make your home more secure and reduce your chances of becoming a victim of burglary, assault or vandalism. Please review the enclosed checklist and ideas to start you on the right path to a safe home.

This information is brought to you by the Racine County Triad program. Triad is a co-op of law enforcement, organizations and older adults working together to improve the lives of seniors in our community. For more information on Triad, please call 262.886.9612



Racine County Triad  
6216 Washington Avenue  
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Racine, WI 53406

Racine County Triad

# HOME SAFETY AND SECURITY

*Older Adults, Law Enforcement  
and Agencies Working Together*



Make sure your house number is clearly displayed so police and other emergency vehicles can find your home quickly.

[www.RacineTriad.org](http://www.RacineTriad.org)

262.886.9612  
800.201.9490

## *Home Security Checklist*

- All entrances are well lit.
- All doors and windows are locked when I am home and when I am away.
- My doors have a wide-angled lens viewer (peephole) that I use each time before answering the door.
- I keep a spare key with a trusted neighbor, never under the mat or in a flower pot or elsewhere outside my home.
- My screen door and window screens are locked when doors and windows are open for ventilation.
- I use a dowel or pin lock to secure sliding glass or patio doors.
- My exterior doors are made of solid wood or metal clad.
- Door hinges are pinned inside to prevent removal.
- I keep the inside and outside of my home well lit.
- I never leave a note on my door or a message on my answering machine that says that I am away from home.
- When I am away for an extended period I have my mail and newspaper delivery held or have a neighbor pick it up each day. I also have someone mow the lawn or shovel the snow so it appears that someone is at home.
- My shrubbery is trimmed away from windows and trees so no one can hide there.
- I close the curtains at night so no one can see inside.
- I use two or more timers to vary the time the lights and TV or radio go off and on while I am away.
- I vary my daily routine.



I am part of the Neighborhood Watch Program.

I never answer the door to strangers and ask for proper ID from delivery or sales people.

## *Other Great Ideas*

- Keep an inventory of serial numbers and photos of re-saleable appliances, antiques and furniture in a safe place.



Mark your valuables with your name or drivers license number as conspicuous as possible without defacing the item.

- Use 1-1/2 inch deadbolts, reinforced frames, glass panels, and metal strike-plates on exterior doors.
- Do not rely on security chains; a determined assailant can easily break them.
- If you arrive home and suspect a stranger may be inside, DO NOT GO IN. Leave quietly and call the police for assistance.

**Home security inspections are available from your local police and the Racine County Sheriff's Department. Call the non-emergency line for an appointment.**