

HELMETTA POLICE DEPARTMENT CRIME PREVENTION TIPS

1. Replace locks on newly acquired residences.
2. Install dead bolt or pin-tumbler locks on all outside doors.
3. Make sure all moldings fit tightly.
4. Doors hinged inside prevent removal of pins from the outside.
5. Install locks for all windows.
6. Large amounts of money and other valuables should not be left at home.
7. Identify party at the door before allowing entrance to your home.
8. Keep outside doors locked at all times.
9. Keep garage and tool shed locked at all times.
10. Remove shrubs and trees next to your house that can conceal a burglar breaking in.
11. Avoid revealing your address and phone number to strangers.
12. You make the call for strangers requesting to use your phone.
13. Coats and purses of guests should be placed in a well secured room.
14. When retiring for the night, do not leave money or personal valuable exposed.
15. Keep a light on at all exterior entrances at night.
16. Replace locks immediately if you lose your keys.
17. Separate the keys of your house and auto when leaving your car in a parking lot.
18. Do not have any identification tags on your key ring.
19. Keep a written record of all valuables with serial numbers.
20. Engrave your driver's license number on all valuable property.
21. Photograph valuables.
22. Should an intruder's presence be detected, do not confront him – call police – 9-1-1.
23. Do not enter your house if you see traces of forced entry – call police.
24. Request a security survey of your home to be completed by the Police Department.
The survey will identify areas of your home where additional security measures can be taken in order to make your home more secure.

WHEN ON VACATION OR AWAY:

1. Create a lived in appearance to discourage intruders.
2. Do not leave notes on doors for delivery person – this indicates your absence.
3. Before departing make sure all windows and doors are locked.
4. Do not leave "hidden keys" lying around.
5. By leaving a key with a trusted neighbor, he/she can periodically check your home.
6. Have your lawn maintained during extended absences.
7. Have snow removal services arranged before going on vacation, and have neighbors make tracks in snow near your home.
8. Have mail and newspapers picked up.
9. Do not publicize your extended absence.
10. Arrange draperies, blinds and shades in normal position.
11. Acquire timers for radios, TV, and lights.
12. Inform your trusted neighbor where you can be reached.