

Recommendations:

1. If you install a new system of any type in your vehicle, record the brand name, model, serial number, color and value. Keep this information with your important papers.
2. Keep your receipts.
3. Use an engraving marker to mark your property. It is recommended that you use your driver's license number; if the property is recovered it can be traced back to you.
4. Install an anti-theft device on your vehicle.
5. Do not advertise by placing brand name decals on your vehicle.
6. Remove your faceplate, power sources, or components that are needed to operate accessories.
7. Use wheel locks for custom wheels.
8. Remove all property from your vehicle that is used for employment or entertainment (laptop computers, tools, etc.)

What To Do If You Find Your Vehicle Has Been Burglarized.

1. Do not touch anything or go into the vehicle.
2. Call the Sheriff's Office immediately at 561-688-3400
3. If the suspect is still there "Do Not " confront them instead report it. When reporting it, try to give the communications officer as much information as possible. They will ask you a number of questions.
4. The more information they have, the better chances are of catching the person.



Crime Prevention Tips from THE PALM BEACH COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

For More Information Contact...

- ❑ COMMUNITY SERVICES
3228 Gun Club Road
West Palm Beach, FL 33406
(561) 688-3805
- ❑ DISTRICT 1
3228 Gun Club Road
West Palm Beach, FL 33406
(561) 688-3600
- ❑ DISTRICT 2
1755 East Tiffany Drive
Mangonia Park, FL 33407
(561) 848-2513
- ❑ DISTRICT 3
8130 Jog Road
West Palm Beach, FL 33412
(561) 776-2000
- ❑ DISTRICT 4
345 S. Congress Avenue
Delray Beach, FL 33445
(561) 274-1075
- ❑ DISTRICT 5
38840 State Road 80
Belle Glade, FL 33430
(561) 996-1670
- ❑ DISTRICT 6
7894 S. Jog Road
Lake Worth, FL 33467
(561) 357-7000
- ❑ DISTRICT 7
17901 US Highway 441
Boca Raton, FL 33498
(561) 558-2700
- ❑ DISTRICT 8
12794 Forest Hill Blvd.
Suite 14A
Wellington, FL 33414
(561) 753-8547
- ❑ DISTRICT 9
11498 Okeechobee Blvd.
Royal Palm Beach, FL 33411
(561) 790-5180
- ❑ DISTRICT 10
700 - 6th Street
Lake Park, FL 33403
(561) 881-3326
- ❑ DISTRICT 11
335 S.W. 2nd Avenue
South Bay, FL 33493
(561) 996-6511
- ❑ DISTRICT 12
115 East Main Street
Pahokee, FL 33476
(561) 924-3565
- ❑ DISTRICT 13
1224 S.W. Avenue E Place
Belle Glade, FL 33430
(561) 996-7270
- ❑ DISTRICT 14
120 North G Street
Lake Worth, FL 33460
(561) 586-1611
- ❑ PARKS ENFORCEMENT
2700 - 6th Avenue S.
Lake Worth, FL 33461
(561) 493-2840
- ❑ TRAFFIC DIVISION
3200 Belvedere Road
Building 1169
West Palm Beach, FL 33406
(561) 688-3700



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Motor Vehicle Theft and Vehicle Burglary Prevention



Every day and night someone becomes a victim of vehicle theft or vehicle burglary.

The following information will give you some preventive measures to take to safeguard your vehicle.

Palm Beach County Sheriff's Office
Ric L. Bradshaw, Sheriff



It is just as important to be prepared to handle your vehicle being stolen as it is to practice preventive measures. But all too often, citizens' attitudes about vehicle theft are based on misconceptions, which can lead to expensive consequences for the unprepared victim.

This information is designed to help educate vehicle owners to be better prepared to handle a vehicle theft or burglary when it does occur.

An unlocked vehicle with a key in the ignition is an open invitation to any thief, regardless of which anti-theft device you use. Prevention is the simplest and most cost-effective way to thwart would-be thieves.

- Lock your vehicle - half of all vehicles burglarized or stolen are left unlocked.
- Take your keys with you - nearly 20% of all vehicles stolen have the keys in them.
- Park in well-lighted areas - vehicle thefts and burglaries occur at night.
- When possible park in attended lots - burglars and car thieves do not like witnesses.
- Do not leave your vehicle unattended and running.
- Close all windows.
- Do not leave valuables in plain view.
- Do not hide a spare set of keys on or in the vehicle - the pros know where to look.
- When parking on the street, park with your wheels turned toward the curb.
- Always use your emergency brake when parking.
- If you have a garage, use it when possible - when you do lock both the vehicle and the garage.

Theft Prevention Devices

1. **Audible Alarms** - Most audible alarms are equipped with motion or impact sensors that can trigger a 120-decibel alarm that can be heard from a 300 foot range.
2. **Steering Wheel Locks** (such as The Club) and brake pedal locks are the least expensive solution – both work to deter vehicle theft.
3. **Passive Immobilizer** - This comes standard on some vehicles. The immobilizer use a key that contains a computer chip which communicates with the vehicle's engine. Without the proper key, the only way to steal the vehicle is to tow it.
4. **Silent Pager** - This device pages a vehicle owner when their vehicle is being tampered with, so they can take appropriate action.
5. **Window Etching** - Having your vehicle's identification number etched onto the windows make it difficult for a thief to resell your vehicle.
6. **Lojack** - This device dramatically cuts vehicle theft rates by using global positioning satellites to track vehicles.

Items Commonly Stolen from Vehicles

- Briefcases
- Purses
- Cash
- CDs and CD Cases
- Keys
- Jewelry
- Cell Phones
- Garage Door Openers

How Auto Burglary Can Lead to Residential Burglary

When you leave the following items in your vehicle, criminals can use these items to commit a burglary to your residence.

1. **Vehicle Registration** - Do not leave your registration in your vehicle. If you must, make a photocopy of it and black out your address. Keep the original with you.
2. **Mail** - Do not leave outgoing or incoming mail in your vehicle. This has your name and address on it.
3. **Garage Door Opener** - Try to avoid leaving this in your vehicle if possible.
4. **Keys** - Never leave in your vehicle or hide keys on the vehicle.

Prevention of Theft of Property, Accessories, and Parts

When a deputy is dispatched to a vehicle burglary call there is certain information that is needed for the report. The following is what is needed so that the property can be entered into the teletype system that is broadcasted nationally. By providing this information it will assist the Sheriff's Office in recovering your property and arresting the person responsible.

- Brand Name such as Sony, Pioneer, Dell, etc.
- Model or Model Number
- Serial Number
- Color
- Value

