

PROTECT YOUR FAMILY AND PROPERTY

Do

- Join a neighbourhood watch in your area
- Get involved with sector policing
- Keep a record of your neighbours' contact details
- Report suspicious happenings to the Police
- Attend awareness and safety programmes given by the SAPS
- Send your domestic workers and gardeners to Domestic Workers Workshops
- Join the SAPS Reservists or Admin Reservists
- Ensure that your physical security measures, including burglar guards, security gates, fences, lighting, dogs and alarm systems are adequate
- Establish a security routine in your household
- Designate a specific key storage place that is concealed from view, but easily accessible
- File off any serial or code numbers on your keys
- Install motion-detecting outdoor floodlights around your home
- Keep your garage door and outbuildings locked at all times
- Make an arrangement with your neighbours to keep an eye on each other's homes
- Leave keys and contact details with a neighbour or other reliable person in case of emergency while you're away
- Keep emergency numbers clearly posted in an accessible place
- Make an inventory of valuables in your household and store it elsewhere
- Make sure your children memorise their full names, address and phone number
- Make sure the street number on your property is easily visible for emergency personnel

Don't

- Ignore criminal activity because you do NOT want to attend court proceedings
- Leave post to pile up while you are on holiday
- Pack your suitcase in view of others if you are leaving on holiday
- Leave bags or keys lying near an open window or security door in your home
- Leave valuable items, like laptops or cell phones visible in your vehicle
- Ignore your neighbours
- Trust anyone. Most legitimate callers will understand your precautions
- Leave spare keys in obvious hiding places
- Mark your key ring with your address or other personal particulars
- Leave your house keys on the bunch when servicing your car
- Allow your home to look empty when you're away. Use timers to turn lights, televisions and sound systems on and off at different times
- Leave a message on your answering machine indicating that you're NOT at home. Instead, just say you "can't come to the phone"
- Open any perimeter door without satisfactory identification from the visitor
- Admit to a stranger that you are alone
- Take on new employees without personal referrals and reliable references
- Hire off the street if you are forced to employ a stranger. Rather use an employment agency
- Leave money or valuables lying around. Even an honest person can weaken to temptation
- Ignore any unusual sounds or noises, such as barking dogs, alarms or breaking glass
- Ignore people loitering outside your property as they could be a danger to you and your household
- Wear extravagant jewellery in public
- Carry large amounts of cash