



HELP YOURSELF!

DON'T INVITE CRIME

PREVENTING BURGLARIES DURING HOLIDAYS

The holiday season should be a time to relax and celebrate with family and friends. However, it is still important to be proactive about keeping your home and community safe, especially if you are going away.

Follow this advice in addition to the *Preventing Burglaries from Homes* Fact Sheet to help keep your home secure while you're away on holidays.

Holiday Burglary Prevention Checklist	
Keep Up Appearances	Tick
If possible, consider a house-sitter to look after your home while you're away	<input type="checkbox"/>
Put a stop on your mail or ensure it is collected regularly and not left overflowing in your letterbox	<input type="checkbox"/>
Cancel any newspaper subscriptions – uncollected newspapers can tell burglars you're not at home	<input type="checkbox"/>
Arrange for a neighbour to take your bins out and in	<input type="checkbox"/>
Ask a neighbour to occasionally park their car in your driveway	<input type="checkbox"/>
Arrange for a neighbour or friend to maintain your garden and mow your lawn	<input type="checkbox"/>
Turn down the volume on your telephone so burglars cannot hear it ringing	<input type="checkbox"/>
Set up a timer for a lamp or lights to come on at night	<input type="checkbox"/>
Set up a timer for a radio to turn on and off throughout the day	<input type="checkbox"/>
Be careful when posting holiday plans on social media – don't advertise that your home is vacant	<input type="checkbox"/>
Lock Up and Improve Security	
Install locks on all doors and windows	<input type="checkbox"/>
Install and activate an alarm system	<input type="checkbox"/>
Lock away tools and other items which could be used in a burglary	<input type="checkbox"/>
Follow the advice in the <i>Preventing Burglaries From Homes</i> Fact Sheet	<input type="checkbox"/>

Key Crime Prevention Tips

- **Appearances:** Make it look like someone is home. Arrange a house-sitter or ask a trusted neighbour for help
- **Lock** all doors and windows
- **Improve** the security of your home
- **Secure** valuables by keeping them in a safe place.

Additional Resources

Use the *Preventing Burglaries from Homes* Fact Sheet to help improve the physical security of your home, available from: www.helpyourself.vic.gov.au

Download and submit an *Absence from Residence* form to your local police station, available from: www.police.vic.gov.au

Notifying police of your absence does not guarantee the security of your home, and it should be considered as an addition to the advice on this Fact Sheet.

Burglars will target homes if they think nobody is home.

If you require immediate police attendance, call police on Triple Zero (000)
If you have any information regarding a crime, call Crime Stoppers on 1800 333 000