

# Vehicle Security

## Tips & Ideas

***Park your vehicle in a well lighted and high traffic area when ever possible.***

***Four out of five vehicles stolen were left unlocked by the owners.***

***One out of every five vehicles stolen had the keys left in the ignition.***

***Professional car thieves abound, but most vehicles are still taken by amateurs who can easily be stopped with a few sensible precautions.***

***Do not trust the trunk of your vehicle as a safe haven for valuable items. Trunks can be broken into as easily as doors.***

- ✓ Make sure your windows are closed and your vehicle is locked. Use the key to lock your vehicle, making sure that you take it with you.
- ✓ Remove all valuables from your car, this includes pull-out stereo face plates, car phones/chargers and do not leave even a small amount of change in view, it's an offer a desperate thief can't refuse.
- ✓ Invest in a good alarm system and use it. Seeing a car alarm will deter most burglars and encourage them to seek easier targets.
- ✓ Do not leave your windows open, even a crack, in hot weather. There are certain burglar tools that take advantage of this practice. Instead, use an inexpensive sun shade for your front window.
- ✓ One of the most effective ways to keep your vehicle from being stolen is use a "Club" that locks the steering wheel. They are available in most auto parts stores for a nominal amount. Police Departments highly recommend their use.
- ✓ Always take your transmitters (garage) with you if possible, as well as entry cards to your complex. Do not leave these items under your seat.
- ✓ Protect valuable tires and rims with locking lug nuts or other locking devises easily purchased at specialty auto parts stores.
- ✓ Never hide a spare ignition key on or in the vehicle. A professional thief will always looks for one. Carry a spare key somewhere on your person.
- ✓ Be aware of high theft vehicles. Contact your insurance company for a list of vehicles most often burglarized or stolen.
- ✓ Thieves take advantage of unlighted areas. Report broken lights to your security provider or management.
- ✓ Participate in your community "Stop Program/Neighborhood Watch" sponsored by your police department. Report suspicious activity and try to give accurate description of persons or vehicles involved.