

Saskatoon Police Service

Honour - Spirit - Vision

HOME SAFETY AND SECURITY

Target hardening - simply means making it difficult for criminals to get in or steal from you. Look at your home from a criminal's perspective; are there windows hidden by trees? Is it dark, no motion lights on? Deadbolts on doors?

Steps to take;

- Know thy neighbour. Get to know who they are and their patterns, visitors, vehicles. Work together!
- Be aware of strangers. Call them in to Police, description, direction of travel, mode of transport...
- Get involved in your neighbourhood watch.
- Keep up appearances - a well tended neighbourhood is less attractive to criminals and vandals.
- Watch for suspicious activity - cars "casing" the area, someone looking into vehicles or going up to homes, dogs barking that normally don't bark...
- Always create the illusion that someone is home. When you go away, have someone take in mail, newspapers, mow lawn, shovel snow. Use a timer on lights inside and outside the home.
- Install security/flood/motion lights outside your home.
- Never leave facebook message/voicemail/twitter indicating your not at home.
- Always use deadbolts on exterior doors, including garage!
- When you are in the backyard, always lock front door and vice versa. Even when you are in the house, it's a good idea to keep the doors locked.
- When moving to a new home, always re-key your locks.
- Get a dog and/or an alarm.
- House numbers must be visible from the street, great to add them to the rear fence or garage as well.