

HOME SECURITY Checklist Challenge



An Garda Síochána

For more information visit www.garda.ie or contact your local Crime Prevention Officer.

HS1

A home security assessment is essential to identifying weaknesses in your physical security that might provide an easy opportunity for a crime to occur. While nothing can make your home absolutely burglar-proof, these checks are intended to create security layers that, if implemented, can serve to reduce criminal opportunity and make it more difficult to force entry into your home. A small investment of time and money can reduce your chances of being a victim of burglary.

Burglars like easy opportunities. If they have to make a lot of noise, spend a lot of time, or risk being seen, the chances are they won't bother. A good rule of thumb is the 3 minute delay test. If you can deny entry for 3 minutes or more – it is likely the burglars will go elsewhere.

Complete this checklist challenge to determine how well your home is secured against burglary. Ignore questions not relevant to your own home. Remember, every NO answer is a threat to your home security.

Neighbours



- | | Yes | No |
|--|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| Have you a reliable neighbour whom you can notify of your travel plans and give a key to, with a request for a periodic house check? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Do you have a neighbour collect your mail or newspapers when you are away or do you avail of MailMinder from An Post? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Do you have your neighbour park his / her extra car in your driveway when you are away from home? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Do you arrange to have your lawn mowed? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Do you notify the Gardaí of prolonged absences from your home? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Are you a member of a community crime prevention scheme (Neighbourhood Watch, Community Alert etc)? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

Outside Security



- | | Yes | No |
|---|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| Is your house number visible from the street? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Is there sufficient illumination around your home to allow visible inspection of any dark areas around it? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Is there sufficient external lighting outside every door to illuminate visitors? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Do neighbours and passers-by have a clear view of your home? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Have you trimmed all hedges and shrubs so they can't hide a burglar at work on the windows and doors? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Have you ever walked around your house looking for ways a burglar might be able to get in? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Do you keep tools or ladders, etc., in places inaccessible to potential burglars? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Are machines, tools and other high value items stored in garages or sheds securely padlocked or chained to prevent removal? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Is your shed / garage secure? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |



www.garda.ie

Garda Emergency – 999/112
Garda Confidential Line (Free Phone) – 1800 666111

Crime Prevention Video



Doors & Windows



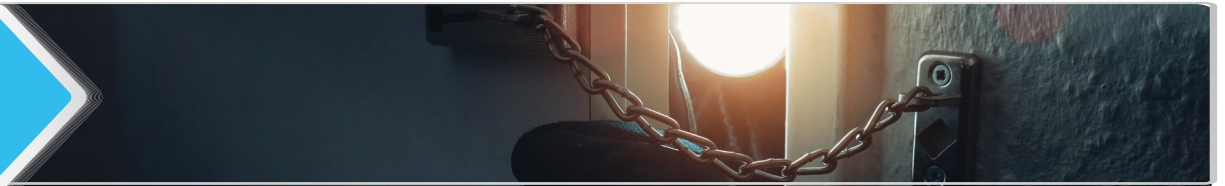
- | | Yes | No |
|--|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| Are all your external doors properly fitted and equipped with appropriate secure locking systems? (i.e. 5-lever mortice locks for wooden doors, multi-point locking for uPVC doors etc.) | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| If you have glass panelled doors – are they reinforced in some way so that they cannot be shattered? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Have you a wide-angled viewer in your front/main entrance doors or other means of viewing callers? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Do you have a door chain / limiter fitted and do you use it? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Since moving into your home (where there may have been a previous occupier) have you had the locks changed? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Are your spare keys kept with a trusted neighbour and never left under an external mat, flower pot etc? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Do you lock your external doors when away from home, no matter how short a time? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Do you lock the doors out of your view when working in the garden / yard? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Have you installed an additional lock(s) to your sliding glass / patio doors? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Are the garage / outhouse doors protected with quality locks or deadbolts? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Do you close and lock your garage /outhouse doors? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Are all your windows secure? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Can the window openings be restricted for ventilation? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Do you check to see if all windows are secured when you leave your home? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

Electronic Security



- | | Yes | No |
|--|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| Do you have an intruder alarm system or CCTV system fitted and do you use it? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Do they conform to recognised international standards? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Is it maintained and serviced annually? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Do you know how to operate and use your alarm or CCTV system functions? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Have you considered connecting it to a monitoring centre or your mobile phone?(If your phone is out of coverage who will be notified in the event of an alarm) | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Have you appointed a keyholder(s) and will they respond appropriately to an alarm activation? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

Inside Security



- | | Yes | No |
|--|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| Do you ask for identification before allowing unknown tradespeople / callers into your home? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Do you avoid leaving cash at home? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Have you automatic timers on some lights when your house is vacant? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Does your home always look like someone is at home? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Have you recorded serial numbers of your valuables? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Have you, for identification purposes, photographed your valuables especially items for which you have no serial numbers such as jewellery, china, crystal, paintings, antiques etc? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Are your car / house keys kept in a location not visible from the outside? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

