

## RESIDENTIAL SECURITY SURVEY

**INSTRUCTIONS:** This survey is designed to be a do-it-yourself security assessment of your residence. Answer each question as best you can. Items where you have answered "No" are areas where you should focus your attention as they indicate areas needing improvement. This survey is for your personal use and once completed, it should be stored in a safe location.

NEIGHBORHOOD			
Yes	No	N/A	
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	Have you met and become acquainted with the neighbors who live on all sides of your residence?
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	Do you belong to a Neighborhood Watch program?
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	Are common areas such as community mailboxes, building entrances, and courtyards illuminated at night?
HOME EXTERIOR			
Yes	No	N/A	
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	Are your house numbers at least 4 inches tall (preferably 6 inches) and clearly visible from the street (both day and night)?
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	If your home has a mailbox near the street, are the house numbers clearly visible on the mailbox?
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	If your home is located along an alley, are the house numbers clearly visible from the alley?
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	Are shrubs, bushes, and other plant growth within 4 feet of a sidewalk, driveway, door, or gate maintained at a height of 2 feet or less?
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	Are shrubs, bushes, and other plant growth 4 - 8 feet from a sidewalk, driveway, door, or gate maintained at a height of 4 feet or less?
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	Are trees trimmed so that the lower branches are at least 6 feet above the ground?
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	Are trees located so that they cannot be used to climb to an upper level of the home?
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	Are spiny/thorny plants used as ground cover along fences and under windows of the home?
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	Has decorative stone or rock that makes noise when someone walks on it been used as ground cover near the home?
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	Has fencing, paving, landscaping, or some other means been used to identify when a person moves from public or common property to private property?
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	If there is a fence around the home or property, are the gates routinely locked?
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	Do household members routinely secure items of value such as bicycles, lawn mowers, ladders, etc. when not in use?
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	Are entryways, porches, and walkways to the residence illuminated at night?
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	Are exterior lights controlled by photocells instead of manual switches?
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	If you have motion detecting light fixtures, are they properly placed and adjusted to reduce false activations?

<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	If there are detached buildings on the property (garage, shed, barn, etc.), are the doors and windows kept locked?
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	Are exterior telephone lines protected so they cannot easily be cut?
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	Are exterior utility boxes (electrical, cable, telephone, etc.) padlocked to prevent unauthorized access?
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	Are vehicles parked outside locked and are garage door opener remotes removed?
GARAGE			
Yes	No	N/A	
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	Is the overhead garage door kept closed when not in use?
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	If you do not have a garage door opener, is the overhead garage door kept locked?
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	Is the pedestrian door between the garage and the home kept locked?
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	Are keys removed from vehicles when they are parked inside the garage?
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	Are keys stored in a garage secured in a lockbox mounted to the wall?
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	Are windows into the garage covered or frosted to prevent visual inspection of valuables from the exterior?
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	If keypad entry is used, is the entry code changed frequently?
DOORS			
Yes	No	N/A	
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	Are exterior doors (including the pedestrian door between the garage and home) of solid core construction or metal encased?
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	Do exterior doors fit tightly within the door jamb?
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	Are door locks at least 40 inches away from glazing or are double cylinder deadbolt locks installed?
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	Do exterior doors have wide angle (180°) viewers or windows installed?
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	Are exterior door strike plates secured to the frame of the house using screws at least 3 inches in length?
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	If exterior doors swing outward and have exposed hinges, have the pins been welded or otherwise secured in place?
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	Have screws been installed in the top track of sliding glass doors to prevent the door from being lifted off the track (screws should extend ½ - ¾ inch below the door frame)?
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	Have locking "Charlie" bars been installed in the center of sliding glass doors in lieu of wooden dowels in the bottom track?
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	Are exterior doors kept locked, even when someone is home?
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	Is the door between the basement and upper levels of the house kept locked?

LOCKS			
Yes	No	N/A	
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	Are door locks in good repair?
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	Are keys removed from double-cylinder deadbolts?
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	Was the residence re-keyed the last time an occupant moved in or out?
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	Do occupants of the home avoid hiding keys outside the residence other than in a lockbox secured to the structure?
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	Are deadbolt locks with a minimum 1 inch throw installed on exterior doors, including garage pedestrian doors?
WINDOWS			
Yes	No	N/A	
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	Have secondary locks been installed on windows capable of being opened?
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	Do basement windows have security bars, grills, or other locking covers?
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	Are window air conditioners anchored and protected to prevent removal from the outside?
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	When you are away, are windows covered or frosted to prevent visual inspection of valuables from the exterior?
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	Are windows kept closed and locked or locked open no more than 6 inches, even when someone is home?
ALARM SYSTEM			
Yes	No	N/A	
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	Does the home have an intrusion alarm system?
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	Is the alarm system monitored by a professional monitoring service?
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	Has everyone with a key to the residence been trained to properly arm and disarm the alarm system?
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	Does the alarm system have a battery back-up system in the event of power outage?
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	Does the alarm system have a cellular or radio back-up system in the event of telephone outage?
MISCELLANEOUS			
Yes	No	N/A	
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	Does the home have a safe for storage of firearms and other valuables?
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	Have valuable papers (birth certificates, titles, deeds, social security cards, checks, tax records, passports, etc.) been secured in a fire resistant safe or in a safe deposit box?
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	If you have a safe, is it bolted to the house to prevent removal?
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	Do you have an accurate inventory of your valuables that includes make, model, and serial numbers?

<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	Have you engraved items of value with a unique number that would help identify your property should it be stolen and recovered?
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	Is there a cellular phone in the house in case the telephone lines are cut or inoperative?
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	Is there a corded phone in the house in case a power outage disables cordless phones?
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	Are alternative entry points (skylights, crawl spaces, vents, etc.) secured and locked?
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	Have you removed identifying information from your key rings in case your key ring is stolen?
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	If there is a death in the family, are arrangements made for a house-sitter the day of the funeral?
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	Are interior lights visible from the outside left on at night when the home is unoccupied?
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	Are documents with personal information shredded before being placed in the trash?
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	Is a radio or television left on and playing when the home is unoccupied?
VACATION CHECKLIST			
Yes	No	N/A	
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	Are home deliveries stopped and arrangements made for a trusted neighbor or family member to pick-up mail, newspapers, and packages?
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	Are trusted neighbors asked to watch the residence when you are away?
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	Are arrangements made to have the lawn mowed or snow removed when you are away?
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	Are arrangements made to have garbage cans placed for pick-up and returned to the house on pick-up days?
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	Do you contact your local law enforcement agency to advise them you will be away and how to contact you in an emergency?
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	Do you provide emergency contact information to a trusted neighbor or family member?
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	Is the ringer on the telephone turned down or off when you are away?
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	Is the automatic garage door opener deactivated when you are away?

To find out more ways you can protect your home and neighborhood, please call the



**University Park  
Police Department  
301-277-0050**

COMPLETING THIS SECURITY SURVEY DOES NOT GUARANTEE THAT THE RESIDENCE SURVEYED WILL BE IMMUNE TO CRIMINAL ACTIVITY. WHILE THIS SURVEY CAN BE AN EFFECTIVE TOOL IN UNCOVERING SECURITY WEAKNESSES, NEITHER THE SHERIFF'S OFFICE, NOR ANY OTHER AGENCY, CAN GUARANTEE THAT YOUR RESIDENCE WILL BE COMPLETELY SECURE FROM CRIMINAL ACTIVITY.