



# Home safety tips

## Take proactive steps to improve your home's safety and deter potential criminals.

Home burglaries can occur at any time day or night – combining security devices, practical measures, and community support can significantly reduce crime risks around your home.

### Key security measures

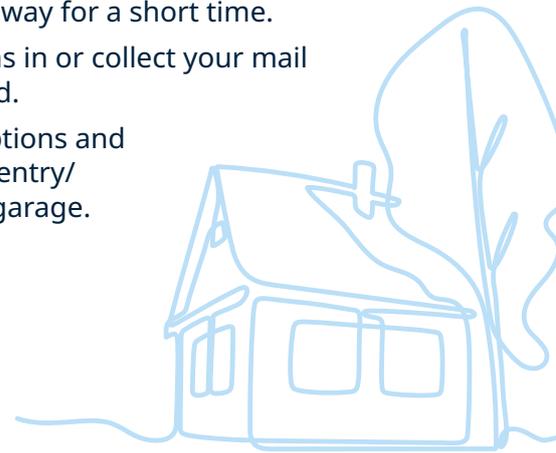
- Install sturdy locks, alarms, motion-sensor lights, and cameras.
- Keep your gardens well-maintained to eliminate hiding spots for trespassers.
- Avoid leaving ladders, tools, or loose items outside that could aid burglars.
- Ensure your house number is clearly visible for emergency services.
- Do not leave hidden keys outside your home – instead, leave a spare key with a trusted neighbour, friend or relative.

### If you are away from your home

- Always secure your premises and lock up when leaving, even if you are only planning to be away for a short time.
- Ask a trusted neighbour to bring bins in or collect your mail if you're gone for an extended period.
- Consider installing smart lighting options and security cameras – particularly over entry/exit doors, in your driveway and/or garage.

### Staying safe indoors

- Lock doors when using noisy equipment like vacuum cleaners, or when working in the garden, home workshop, or shed.
- Fit windows with locks, stoppers, or grills for added safety while open.
- Keep your garage closed when you are not in it and close it when you are away from home.
- Make sure that pet door/s are installed in a position that doesn't allow for access to door locks if someone is able to reach through the pet door.
- Lock/close off pet doors when not in use, or consider an electronic/smart pet door if you have large-breed dogs.





## Keep a list of high value items

- Keep a detailed inventory of items in your home, garage and outbuildings such as sheds and storage units. Record the purchase date, make, colour, size and serial number of items (where relevant).
- Don't forget to update the inventory when you get new items. Keeping photographs or adding photos to your inventory may assist police to recover stolen items.
- Engrave high value items that thieves target where it is practical to do so, e.g. tools. You can also use a UV marker pen to mark items (you will need a blue light to see the UV marking).

## Build a community network

- Get to know your neighbours! Ask them to keep an eye on your property and offer to do the same for them.
- Join community programs like Neighbourhood Watch to foster community ties and mutual support in preventing or minimising crime in your local area.

## How to get help

- **If you are in immediate danger – call 000 (Triple Zero).**
- For non-urgent police help – call the **Police Assistance Line** on **131 444**.
- If you are faced with an intruder, focus on staying safe – do not confront them. If possible, exit your house and seek a safe spot nearby and call police. Try to take note of a description of the intruder/s, suspicious vehicles (including number plates) and as much detail about the situation as you can.

### Other useful contacts include:

- **Crime Stoppers:** visit [crimestopperstas.com.au](http://crimestopperstas.com.au) or call 1800 333 000 if you'd like to make a report anonymously
- **Tasmania Police Online Crime Reporting Portal** – you can report theft or property damage online at [police.tas.gov.au/reportonline](http://police.tas.gov.au/reportonline).

## Find out more

- For more home safety tips – including extra tips on how to protect your home in a rural environment – visit the Tasmania Police website: [police.tas.gov.au](http://police.tas.gov.au) or download the Tasmania Police **Home Security Audit Checklist** to find out how you can improve your home security.