

# Safety tips: At home and on the road



At home



## LOCKS

Take a close look at all the doors and windows in your home. Solid core doors and frames, with a dead bolt lock and strike plate with 3 inch screws, is most secure. Adding a simple block of wood should be enough to prevent windows from being opened.



## LANDSCAPING

Clear your yard to limit hiding spaces. Trim trees to a 6 foot clearance and trim bushes to a 2 foot clearance. Add thorny or other defensive plants to your landscaping.



## LIGHTING

Add safety lighting and timers. Most home burglaries occur between 8am to 12 noon. However, burglars are increasingly making attempts at night. Motion sensor or other lighting around doors and windows give the appearance of activity inside the home.



## LADDERS

Lock ladders and tools away, so burglars can't use them.



## LABRADORS

Dogs scare away burglars. Consider adopting from Oakland Animal Services or the East Bay SPCA and incorporating your new friend into your home and with your family. Dogs are best at guarding from inside the home. *Review these guidelines before making that decision: <https://www.avma.org/KB/Policies/Pages/Guidelines-for-Responsible-Pet-Ownership.aspx>.* Don't want, or can't adopt, a dog? Consider a barking alarm!



## KNOW

As best you can, know your surroundings, stay in well-lit area, and walk in the street (if it's safe) with friends or a group. A whistle can be a helpful tool to make yourself more visible. Perpetrators generally don't want attention drawn to them.



## DESCRIBE

If you are victimized, get to a safe place to call 911 (or 777-3211 from a cell phone). As best you can, note a good description of the perpetrator or find witnesses who can.



## TRUST

Trust your gut. If something appears suspicious, it probably is. Get yourself to a safe place and call 911. If the event occurred in the past, you can call the OPD non-emergency line at 777-3333.



On the road