



CITY OF MADISON POLICE DEPARTMENT

www.madisonpolice.com

CRIME PREVENTION

Lock It or Lose It

- Most residential burglaries are a direct result of unlocked doors and windows.
- Most residential burglaries occur during the day than at night.
- Thieves can easily blend in with normal pedestrian traffic then easily duck into a home without drawing much attention.
- The most effective way for you to protect your valuables is to **LOCK YOUR DOORS AND WINDOWS BOTH DAY AND NIGHT.**

Leaving for awhile?

(i.e., spring break or winter break)

- Consider telling your neighbors.
- Stop your mail, magazine, or newspaper subscriptions, etc.
- Leave an inside light on.
- Put lights and television on a timer.
- Take your valuables with you.
- Let a friend housesit.
- Notify your landlord.

What do burglars look like?

- Part of going “undetected” means they are “blending” in with those around them.
- Don’t assume another student won’t steal your property.
- Police have apprehended burglars of varying age, race, sex, and socioeconomic class.

“Sorry, wrong house!”

-Burglar

This is the one that comes through your unlocked door pretending to be looking for a “friend.”

This individual may even have a brief conversation with you that sounds some thing like: *“I’m looking for ‘Joe’ he told me he lives here.”*

Next it might be followed up with a quick apology then a hasty exit. (If you’re lucky.)

This may seem like an “innocent mistake” chances are this person has already burglarized your neighbors and your home was next.

This type of activity needs to be reported to police. (This is a 9-1-1 call situation.) Let the police determine if this individual genuinely made a mistake.





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What Can YOU Do

- Lock doors and windows day and night.
- Report suspicious activity.
- Record your electronics' serial numbers.
- Engrave your information on your valuables.
- Conceal valuables (when not home).
- Consider renter's insurance.
- Keep an external hard drive with important information and documents.

Common Statements Made by Victims of a Burglary

- "I was only gone for a few minutes."
- "I left my door unlocked for my roommate."
- "I was just down the hall."
- "I **ONLY** lock my door at night."
- "Our apartment building has a security-locked entrance."

Important Numbers

Police Emergency.....9-1-1

Non-Emergency

City of Madison Police608-266-4948

UW-Madison Police608-262-2957

City of Madison Self-Report ..608-245-3662

Parking Enforcement.....608-266-4622

Crime Stoppers.....608-266-6014

Towed Vehicles.....608-266-4170

www.madisonareacrimestoppers.org

www.cityofmadison.com/police

www.cityofmadison.com/epayment

police@cityofmadison.com

Top 10 Stolen Items

1. Laptop Computers
2. iPods (no matter which generation)
3. Game Consoles
4. DVDs
5. Video Games
6. Cell Phones
7. Digital Cameras
8. Wallet or purse and contents
9. "Loose Change"
10. Backpacks (used to carry your valuables)

