

What is a Burglary?

Burglary, also called “breaking and entering”, is the crime of breaking into a building to commit an offense, usually theft. Every year there are over five million home burglaries in the United States which account for 21% of property crimes. On average, one burglary results in a financial loss of \$1,725. You can greatly reduce the risk of being burglarized by taking simple steps to make your home more difficult to enter and less enticing to potential burglars.

Have you seen anything or anyone suspicious?

If you do see a suspicious person or action, in your community call the police via our non-emergency number at 732-390-6900, or call 911 if the situation requires emergency response.

Do not hang up!

Give an identifying description of the suspicious person or vehicle, such as:

Age / Sex / Race

Height & Weight

Hair / Facial hair

Clothing

Auto make, model, color, license plate number

Direction of travel

Activity

East Brunswick Police Department

Community Policing Unit

1 Civic Center Drive

East Brunswick, NJ 08816



Phone: 732-390-6938

Website: www.EBPD.net

E-mail: CommunityPolicing@ebpd.net

Leave a Confidential Tip

The East Brunswick Police Department has established a Confidential Tip Line to receive crime or suspicious activity information from concerned citizens.

732-4EBTIPS

or

tips@ebpd.net

“Street Smart”

Burglary Prevention Guide



East Brunswick Police Department

Emergency: 9-1-1

Non-Emergency: 732-390-6900

The Burglary Basics:

- Make your home look occupied and make it difficult to break in.
- Lock all outside doors and windows before you leave the house or go to bed. Even if it is for a short time, lock your doors.
- Leave lights on when you go out. If you are going to be away for a length of time, connect some lamps to automatic timers to turn them on in the evening and off during the day.
- Keep your garage door closed and locked.
- Don't allow daily deliveries of mail, newspapers or flyers to build up while you are away. Arrange with the Post Office to hold your mail or arrange for a friend or neighbor to get them regularly.
- Arrange for your lawn to be mowed if you are going away for an extended time.
- Check your locks on doors and windows and replace them with secure devices as necessary.
- Pushbutton locks on doorknobs are easy for burglars to open. Install deadbolt locks on all your outside doors.
- Sliding glass doors are vulnerable. Special locks are available for better security.
- Other windows may need better locks. Check with a locksmith or hardware store for alternatives.

Don't Tempt a Thief:

- Lawn mowers, blowers, barbecues and bicycles are best stored out of sight.
- Always lock your garden sheds and garages.
- Use curtains on garage and basement windows.
- Never leave notes on your door such as "Gone shopping".
- Be cautious about posts on social media which indicate you are away from home or on vacation.

Get the Best Locks:

- No lock, regardless of its quality, can be truly effective. Key-in dead bolt locks provide minimum security. Ask a locksmith for advice on your situation.
- Change locks immediately if your keys are lost or stolen.
- When moving into a new home, have all locks changed.

Targeting the Outside:

- Have adequate exterior lighting. A motion sensitive light is recommended for backyards.
- Trim trees and shrubs so that they cannot be used as hiding places for intruders.

If Your Home Is Broken Into:

If you come home to find an unexplained open/ broken window or door:

Do not enter! The perpetrator may still be in- side.

- Use a neighbor's phone to call police.
- Do not touch anything or clean up until the police have inspected for evidence.
- Write down the license plate numbers of any suspicious vehicles.
- Note the descriptions of any suspicious persons.

Other Precautions to Take:

- Never leave keys under doormats, flowerpots, mailboxes or other "secret" hiding places — burglars know where to look for hidden keys.
- Keep a detailed inventory of your valuable possessions, including a description of the items, date purchased and original value and serial numbers. Keep a copy in a safe place away from home. Take pictures or video.
- Trim your shrubbery around your home to reduce cover for burglars.
- Be a good neighbor. If you notice anything suspicious in your neighborhood, call 911 immediately. Form a Neighborhood Watch Group. We can help you work with your neighbors to improve security and reduce risk of burglary.
- Mark your valuables with your driver's license number. Marked items are harder for a burglar to dispose of and easier for police to recover.
- Consider installing a burglar alarm system.