

HOW TO PROTECT YOUR VEHICLE

HOW SECURE IS MY VEHICLE?

- ➔ MY VEHICLE HAS A BUILT-IN SECURITY DEVICE OF GOOD QUALITY.
- ➔ I DO NOT LEAVE DOCUMENTS, JEWELLERY OR OTHER VALUABLES THAT MAY ATTRACT THE ATTENTION OF THIEVES ON SHOW IN MY VEHICLE.
- ➔ I HAVE AN AGREEMENT WITH MY NEIGHBOUR TO LOOK AFTER AND PROTECT EACH OTHER'S VEHICLE.
- ➔ I ALWAYS PARK IN A WELL-LIT PLACE IN THE STREET OR A PARKING LOT.
- ➔ I ALWAYS CLOSE ALL THE WINDOWS AND LOCK ALL THE DOORS WHEN I PARK MY CAR.

TYPES OF PROTECTIVE DEVICES

Some security devices are built-in as part of a vehicle's standard equipment while others are installed later. The latter can be mechanical or electronic.

Mechanical security devices:

- ➔ Steering-wheel or pedal locks;
- ➔ Steering-wheel club;
- ➔ Gear-lever lock;
- ➔ Valve with a lock to immobilise brakes;
- ➔ Hidden switch to immobilise ignition.

Electronic security devices:

- ➔ Alarm with a siren and engine immobilisation;
- ➔ Engine immobilisation;
- ➔ Other electronic immobilisation sets preventing thieves to start a vehicle;
- ➔ Tracking devices.

ISSUES TO CONSIDER WHEN SELECTING A SECURITY DEVICE

- ➔ Clubs and other mechanical protective devices should be made of alloy steel; locks on these devices must be of good quality.
- ➔ Electronic security devices should have quality parts in order to prevent malfunction.
- ➔ Electronic security devices should have their own power supply.
- ➔ Before installing a security device you must consult an expert.
- ➔ Security devices should be installed by certified businesses.
- ➔ Select only security devices with quality certificates. You will get a discount on insurance if you have this certificate.

BUYING A USED VEHICLE

STOLEN VEHICLES, VEHICLES WITH CHANGED IDENTITIES OR DAMAGED VEHICLES REPAIRED WITH STOLEN PARTS ARE OFTEN SOLD AT CAR FAIRS, VIA CLASSIFIED ADS, OR DEALERSHIPS IN SLOVENIA AND ABROAD.

When buying a used vehicle, pay particular attention to the following:

- ➔ You should be suspicious, if a relatively new vehicle is being sold by its third or fourth owner.
 - ➔ The seller is very pushy and claims to be selling the vehicle on behalf of his friend, acquaintance or relative.
 - ➔ Ask for the vehicle's original documents (registration certificate, invoices, previous purchase contracts, insurance policy, green card, service history, proof of duties paid, etc.) and do not accept photocopies or an excuse that the documents will be delivered to you at a later time.
 - ➔ Carefully check the vehicle's documents for forgery or tampering (illegible or partly erased data; illegible, smeared or partly erased official stamps; the authority specified on the stamp is different from the authority which issued the document; etc.).
 - ➔ Compare the actual data found in the vehicle with those specified in the documents. Check data on the colour, engine (capacity, power, etc.), bodywork (estate, saloon, coupe, cabriolet), car's equipment in terms of the model, age, etc.
 - ➔ Check the chassis number against the number in the registration certificate and other documents. Check all the places the chassis number is specified (engraved on the body frame, under the bonnet, on the manufacturer's plate; or in some vehicles on the dash board under the windscreen).
 - ➔ Since damaged vehicles are sometimes repaired with parts from stolen vehicles, you should carefully inspect the vehicle. For example, look for traces of a different colour underneath the existing body paint. If you notice that the vehicle was damaged and repaired, ask where it was repaired and how, and request to see invoices for spare parts and repair work.
 - ➔ Chassis numbers can be tampered with or modified. Carefully inspect any damage to the numbers or visible marks of tampering with the number or the area around the number. You should be suspicious if the varnish around the numbers is peeled off or the numbers are rusted.
 - ➔ If the manufacturer's labels or service labels were removed or numbers etched on glass erased, the seller is probably trying to conceal the vehicle's identity.
 - ➔ Having purchased a vehicle, promptly change the documents to your name. It is best, if you agree with the seller to pay the full price of the vehicle after the documents have been changed to your name.
- If you suspect something is wrong with the vehicle (for example that it was stolen or its identity was changed), notify the police immediately.

STOLEN VEHICLES

OF THE 1 000 000 VEHICLES REGISTERED IN SLOVENIA, BETWEEN 900 AND 1100 MOTOR VEHICLES ARE STOLEN EVERY YEAR. THIS MEANS THERE IS ONLY A SLIM CHANCE THAT YOUR VEHICLE WILL BE STOLEN.

THE CHANCE IS EVEN SLIMMER IF YOU PROTECT YOUR VEHICLE AND ACT ACCORDINGLY. IT IS YOU, THE OWNER OF THE VEHICLE, WHO CAN DO MOST TO PREVENT THE THEFT.

THIEVES ARE TARGETING YOUR VEHICLE



WHAT TO DO IF YOUR VEHICLE IS STOLEN

When you discover that your vehicle has been stolen:

- ➔ Immediately report the theft to the police. It is important that all the available police patrols are notified of the theft as soon as possible, so that they can spot the vehicle.
- ➔ When you are making the report, be prepared to give a police officer all the information requested.
- ➔ Give as many details of your vehicle and objects in your vehicle as you can remember to help the police find your vehicle.
- ➔ Tell them if you witnessed the thief stealing your vehicle.

SELF-PROTECTION

It is you who can do most to protect your vehicle:

- ➔ Park in a well-lit place in the street or a parking lot. If possible, park in a car park.
- ➔ Before you leave your vehicle, take out the key, turn the steering wheel into the locked position, close all the windows and lock the doors. Do not forget to lock the boot.
- ➔ Do not leave the registration certificate, green card, insurance policy or service history documents in your vehicle.
- ➔ Alarms, locks for steering wheels and gear levers, and other security devices are useful only if used consistently.

STEALING ITEMS FROM A VEHICLE

SECURITY DEVICES ARE STANDARD BUILT-IN EQUIPMENT IN MODERN UPMARKET MODELS.

MECHANICAL AND ELECTRONIC SECURITY DEVICES CAN ALSO BE INSTALLED AT A LATER TIME.

IT IS IMPORTANT TO CONSIDER THE QUALITY AND TECHNOLOGY OF THESE DEVICES.

THE PURPOSE OF THESE DEVICES IS TO DELAY OR DETER A THIEF.

ISSUES TO CONSIDER

- ➔ You must comply with all the measures for self-protection.



- ➔ Do not leave bags, suitcases, coats or other valuables on seats and other places where they can be seen. Put them in the boot. Items 'on display' in your vehicle attract thieves.



- ➔ Do not leave jewellery, purses, wallets, credit cards, cheques or other valuables in the glove compartment. Thieves often look there.



- ➔ Even inexpensive items hidden from view in a plastic bag or briefcase may catch the eye of a thief who cannot see what is inside the bag or the briefcase. The ensuing damage to the vehicle will exceed the actual value of the stolen items.

- ➔ Do not leave your key in the ignition when you pop into a shop, kindergarten or restaurant; always lock your vehicle.

- ➔ Remove the radio, if possible, and take it with you – do not store it in the glove compartment.

To report a criminal offence dial:

- ➔ 113, or 080 1200 if you wish to remain anonymous; or
- ➔ send an electronic message (e-report of criminal offence) to www.policija.si.



RECOMMENDATIONS FOR PROTECTING YOUR HOME

- ➔ MAKE A SECURITY SURVEY OF YOUR HOME OR ASK A PROFESSIONAL TO HELP YOU CONDUCT A SECURITY INSPECTION
- ➔ COMBINATIONS OF MECHANICAL AND ELECTRONIC PROTECTION ARE THE MOST EFFECTIVE
- ➔ TAKE CARE OF YOUR OWN SAFETY AND SECURE YOUR PROPERTY
- ➔ ELIMINATE THE OPPORTUNITY FOR A BURGLARY
- ➔ SINCE YOUR OWN SAFETY TAKES PRIORITY, DO NOT ATTEMPT TO APPREHEND A BURGLAR BY YOURSELF

MODUS OPERANDI OF BURGLARS

Burglars use various methods, including professional and very specific tactics. The following methods are most frequently used by burglars:

- ➔ Burglars use doors, windows and other openings to gain entry (garage and bathroom windows or ventilation openings).
- ➔ They climb onto balconies, terraces and roofs.
- ➔ They break glass panels in the front door, balcony doors and windows.
- ➔ They climb through basement windows, shafts and ventilation openings.
- ➔ They force or open cylindrical locks on outside doors.
- ➔ They also use iron bars, screwdrivers and physical force to enter homes.
- ➔ They use every opportunity offered by careless and forgetful residents (unlocked or open doors, windows, lost keys, keys left in flowerpots or under doormats, etc.).

IF ...

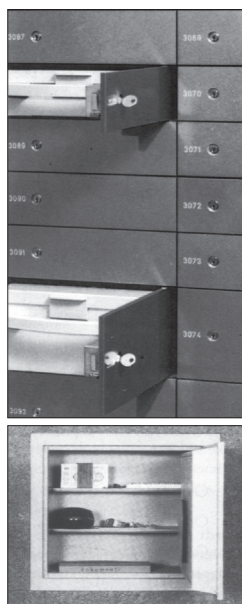
Since your own safety takes priority, do not attempt to apprehend a thief or a burglar by yourself, especially if he or she is stronger or even armed. **CALL THE POLICE IMMEDIATELY!**

You can help the police track down the thief or burglar, if you memorize or write down your observations:

- ➔ Description of suspects (sex, age, height, clothes, facial features, body language or speech, etc.);
- ➔ Licence plates, colour, make and type of vehicle;
- ➔ Direction in which the burglars escaped.

If your house or apartment has already been burgled or robbed before, call the police immediately. It is important that you do not disturb evidence by moving objects or tidying the premises before the arrival of the police.

HOW TO PROTECT YOUR VALUABLES, MONEY AND DOCUMENTS



Keep your expensive jewellery, cash and securities in a safe deposit box (in a bank or a specialised company).

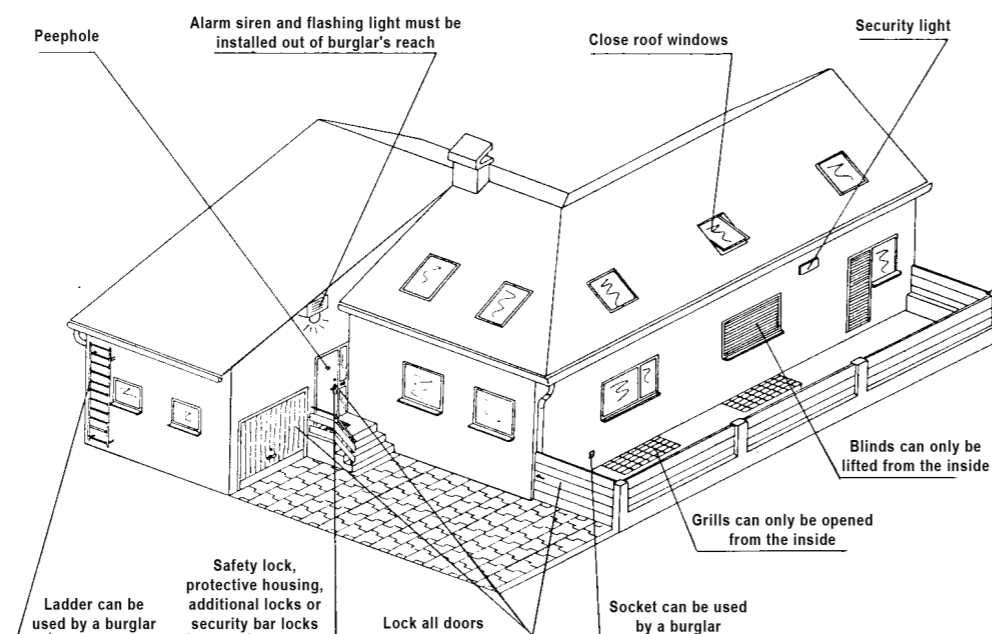
Deposit large amounts of cash into a bank account.

Make an inventory of valuable objects in your home (electronic equipment, paintings and other works of art) and describe their distinguishing features. You can also photograph your works of art.

Write down the serial numbers of bicycles, motorbikes, boats, TV sets, stereo equipment, etc., and describe their distinguishing features. An inventory makes it easier to find stolen valuables and have them returned to you.

Mark your electronic equipment, documents and works of art; you can also use a special pen that makes marks invisible to the naked eye.

If you do keep your valuables and important documents at home, put them in a safe installed in an unusual and hidden place.

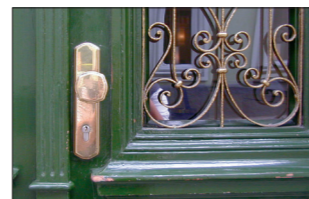


PROTECT YOUR HOME

Install quality outside doors and a safe lock with a protective housing.



Protect easily accessible glass panels with grills or cover them with a protective foil.



Install an alarm of good quality with a localised signal, signal transmission to your communication devices or a security company that responds by sending a team to your home.

The surroundings of the building must be well lit. We recommend motion-sensitive lighting.

WHAT CAN YOU DO TO PROTECT YOUR HOME

When leaving for work, vacation, to run errands or visit friends:

- ➔ Inform your community policing officer at the nearest police station of your planned absence during vacations.
- ➔ Check that all doors and windows are closed and locked (including garage and bathroom windows, doors of workshops, etc.).
- ➔ Do not make it obvious that you are away. Do not leave any messages (when you plan to be back, where you went, etc.), including on your answering machine (e.g. "We are not at home. We will be back from our vacation in Piran on Saturday. Please leave your message after the tone.")
- ➔ Do not leave your keys in a mailbox, under a doormat or a flowerpot where they can be easily found by an intruder.
- ➔ Do not remove flowers from windows and balconies.
- ➔ Do not cover windows with thick curtains, close shutters or blinds.
- ➔ Electronic equipment (a TV set, video player, camera, computer, stereo equipment, etc.) should not be visible from the outside.
- ➔ Store ladders, cases, bins and other objects outside your house in a secure place because a burglar can use them to enter your home.
- ➔ Tell your neighbours, relatives, friends or a person you trust where you will spend your vacation and when you plan to be back.
- ➔ Ask your friends, neighbours or a person you trust to collect your mail every day and observe your home.
- ➔ Cancel your newspaper or magazine subscriptions while you are away on vacation.
- ➔ Valuables should be kept in a safe place.

Since living in a neighbourhood implies that you have responsibilities to your neighbours, we recommend:

- ➔ That you discuss with your neighbours how to best help one another.
- ➔ That you inform your neighbours that you will be away for some time.
- ➔ That if you discover that your neighbours have been burgled while away, **NOTIFY THE POLICE IMMEDIATELY.**

There is no ideal protection. Even if you take all the above precautions, you may still be burgled. Therefore we recommend that you insure your home through the insurance company of your choice.

The police can also advise you free of charge on protecting your home.

To report a criminal offence dial:

- ➔ 113, or 080 1200 if you wish to remain anonymous; or
- ➔ send an electronic message (e-report of criminal offence) to www.policija.si.

ROBBERY AND LARCENY IN THE FORM OF ROBBERY

THE NUMBER OF ROBBERIES IN BANKS, FOREIGN EXCHANGE OFFICES, JEWELLERY SHOPS AND RESIDENTIAL PREMISES HAS BEEN INCREASING IN SLOVENIA. THE NUMBER OF PEOPLE MUGGED IN THE STREET HAS ALSO BEEN ON THE INCREASE.

MEN ARE ASSAULTED IN THE STREET, OUTSIDE OR INSIDE BARS WHILE WOMEN ARE PRIMARILY MUGGED IN THE STREET WHEN THEY SHOP OR RUN ERRANDS, OR ON THEIR WAY HOME. MINORS ARE MOST FREQUENTLY ASSAULTED IN PARKS, SQUARES AND STREETS, OUTSIDE RESTAURANTS IN CITY CENTRES AND OUTSIDE SCHOOLS.

ROBBERY AND ASSAULT

- ➔ Beware of persons watching you when drawing cash from an ATM, at a bank or a post office. Always insist that they respect the privacy line.



- ➔ Do not count your money in the street or open your purse or wallet unless necessary.
- ➔ Do not display cash in restaurants and other public places.
- ➔ Beware of a stranger in the street who asks you for money or change.
- ➔ Watch out for your handbag, purse, wallet and valuables, because they are easy targets.



- ➔ Avoid using unfrequented and poorly lit streets, passages and parks.
- ➔ When travelling, keep your documents, cash, credit cards and cheques in an inner pocket or in a waist bag.
- ➔ If somebody is harassing you, threatening you with assault, or assaults you, report it to the police immediately.
- ➔ If somebody is threatening you and wants to grab your bag, or is in any way behaving violently towards you, shout for help to alert passers-by.
- ➔ Cooperate with the police if you have witnessed a criminal offence. This will help the police catch the perpetrator sooner and diminish the possibility for you becoming his or her next victim.

HOME INVASIONS

Home invasions or house robberies committed by well-prepared perpetrators using brutal force are on the increase in Slovenia. Perpetrators carefully select their victims and first observe their homes for some time. They usually attack unsuspecting people in their homes.

They use physical force, threats, and different weapons to force their victims to reveal where they keep cash and other valuables.

They usually work in groups, are masked and armed, and resort to severe violence. Victims are often tied up and exposed to threats while robbers take their time to their business. It is evident that they are familiar with the building, and sometimes they know exactly where cash is hidden. They primarily target homes with elderly residents or women who cannot defend themselves.



- ➔ Do not keep large amounts of cash or valuables at home.
- ➔ Do not open your door to a stranger.
- ➔ Close and lock your outside doors.
- ➔ Each exterior doorway should be well-lit. We recommend motion-sensitive lighting.
- ➔ Install a lock with a security bar or chain and a peephole on your door.
- ➔ Install an intercom or video intercom.

IF YOU ARE A VICTIM OF A ROBBERY ...

Do not try to be brave, especially when a robber is bigger than you, armed or you are outnumbered. **WHEN THE ROBBERS LEAVE, CALL THE POLICE IMMEDIATELY!**

You can help the police track down the robber, if you memorize or write down your observations:

- ➔ Description of suspects (sex, age, height, clothes, facial features, body language or speech, etc.);
- ➔ Licence plates, colour, make and type of vehicle;
- ➔ Direction in which the robbers escaped.

It is important that you do not disturb evidence by moving objects or tidying the premises before the arrival of the police.