Why and how to increase home or business security

Ways to deter a Criminal

Most break-ins occur from 10am – 3pm when most people are at work. Most criminals want an easy robbery – in and out. Vandals want places that are easily accessible. The following will deter most criminal after an easy target.

1. Security Camera
2. Dog
3. Deterrence signs and stickers
4. Strong doors and locks
5. Sound in the home
6. Video doorbell to answer door remotely
7. Motion sensor floodlights
8. Neighborhood Watch program
9. High gate or fence
10. Unpredictability – leave and arrive at different times
11. Have someone stay or visit house if you will be way

Why Security Camera

1. Deter and identify criminals
2. Possible insurance price reduction and validating insurance claims
3. Increased sense of safety and security
4. Cameras can replace expensive alarm systems
5. Check on property when away
6. Monitoring children and elderly

Locations for Cameras or Lighting

Want to place them where, based on your building, you are most concerned.

* Front door – 34% of burglars use the front door
* Back door
* Side doors or first floor windows out of sight of the street
* Gates, backyards, alley and pathways
* Garage, driveway, or where car is parked
* Basements and basement staircases
* Blind Spots

Where not to place

* Only viewing your neighbor’s property
* In view of sensitive areas like bathrooms and bedrooms

Considerations

Before securing your camera, verify with live view that you can see what you expect and want to see (people’s faces, view of people coming to area, etc.)

* You have strong Wi-Fi signal
* 8 to 10 feet off the ground
* Directed away from the sun to avoid glare – consider different times of day
* Under porch, awning - away from major weather unless rated for such
* In corners to maximize vantage points
* Away from windows’ reflections
* Visible for intruders to see but not tamper with
* View of driveway as criminals walk up driveways

Battery Life

* If using rechargeable cameras always remember to monitor the battery life of that camera.

Additional ways to improve your property security

There are lots of websites that have great information that often isn’t expensive to implement to add more security to your home. Here are some.

* Lighting
* If camera can’t see in the dark, use lights to illuminate area
* Place lights where you would place a camera and in dark areas
* For large yards, lights can be placed in tall trees
* Overhead bright lights, shining down, with a wide radius are best
* Motion detection lights reduce electric bill
* Don’t shine towards your neighbor’s windows
* Types of lights
* Motion Sensor Lights
* Timer Lights
* Floodlights
* Pathway Lights
* Lock windows and doors (house, garage, and car) and add locks if current don’t lock
* Secure valuables
* Hide trash – breakdown TV, etc. box so fully in recycle bin
* Limit Social Media post
* Ensure your entire family (kids too) don’t post
* About going on vacation. Its ok when you get back to say “Great vacation and share pictures”
* About getting new expensive gift
* Pictures of expensive home items
* About money