



Home Invasion Prevention

Learn Why Home Invasion Robberies & Home Burglaries Are Becoming More and More Prevalent In Our Society

...And What You Can Do To Avoid Being A Victim!

Cheryl Watterson
Lets Talk Home Security

Home Invasion Prevention

Learn Why Home Invasion Robberies & Home Burglaries
Are Becoming More and More Prevalent In Our Society
...And What You Can Do To Avoid Being A Victim!

Hello There.

I'm Cheryl Watterson, Security Expert and Radio Host of **Lets Talk Home Security**.



For twenty years I was a Security Consultant for the largest security alarm company in the world, ADT Security. My specialty was working with homeowners - and small business owners – helping to design a home security plan that would provide them with the best protection with total peace of mind whether they were home or away.

Over my twenty years I met with many thousands of homeowners – discussing their security concerns, surveying their home and property, educating them about home protection options, and developing customized security plans for their homes and businesses. I was involved in all aspects of home security from the type of equipment used from simple door/window contact sensors, motion detectors, fire protection devices, glassbreak detectors, to higher technology equipment like video surveillance cameras, intercom systems, and outdoor protection. My associations with local law enforcement specialists, corporate security directors, and fire safety authorities allowed me to enhance my security knowledge and become the expert in my industry.

When meeting with customers, we looked at the total home – both inside and outside – to determine how the security protection would benefit them. My goal was not just to sell them a security system for the home and be gone. I provided security options and suggestions on how to protect the perimeter of their home and property as well. I felt it was important that the homeowner know well in advance if there was a breach of their property before someone potentially entered their home. My goal was to recommend the most optimum protection strategies giving customers the best protection coverage.

For my business to grow I had to build a solid relationship with my customers ensuring they were totally satisfied with their ADT protection. When this happened, they told everyone how happy they were with their security system and would have their friends, family members, and neighbors call me when they needed home security. In fact, the best compliment a customer could give me when I made my follow-up calls was when they said “putting the ADT security system in their home was the best thing they had done and were experiencing a peace of mind that they had not before.” This let me know I had done my job right!

When I set up my personal safety and home security websites, the goal was to continue to provide homeowners with the most optimum protection strategies and resources for both home and personal safety options. Because personal security is so important and it starts at home, we feel strongly that everyone should have a safe and well-secured home for themselves and their family.

Since home burglaries and home invasion robberies have become more prevalent in our society, I felt it would be beneficial to provide some useful information and tips so homeowners can become more proactive in their home protection and security awareness.

The peace of mind thousands of homeowners experience each day because they have taken the initiative to proactively secure their home so their family is safe is hard to put a price on. Becoming a victim of a home burglary or home invasion robbery can disrupt that peace of mind for a lifetime!

Starting today make an effort to become proactively involved in your overall home protection safety so you can experience the same peace of mind of knowing your home and family are safe 24/7.

I hope you find the information useful. If you have any questions or comments, email me at cheryl@personalsecuritysolutions.com.

Take care and stay safe!



Cheryl Watterson
Radio Host – Security Expert
Let's Talk Home Security

HOME INVASION PREVENTION

Learn Why Home Invasion Robberies & Home Burglaries
Are Becoming More and More Prevalent In Our Society
....And What You Can Do To Avoid Being A Victim!

Most authorities now believe it is our sluggish economy that is driving the increase in home burglary and home invasion robbery crimes. While I have been writing about this concept for the past 18 months, it has only been recently that I've seen reports from officials finally acknowledging that our economy has had a tremendous impact on these home related crimes. As more and more people lose their income due to business layoffs, shutdowns, or business closings, the availability of jobs is becoming fewer and fewer. When individuals don't have the income to provide for their family, they sometimes do desperate things – like turning to home burglary and/or home invasion robbery crimes.

In certain areas of the country the tremendous increase in home invasion robberies has a lot more to do with drug-related crimes. In speaking with law enforcement officials from Seattle, Florida panhandle, and Houston, Texas – they have indicated that most of the home invasions in their areas are drug-related. These criminals know where they can get the drugs or money and the majority of the victims have some association with their attackers. These home invasion intruders almost always kick in the doors using violence, ruthless abandonment, and carrying high powered lethal weapons.

Whatever the real reason for the increase in home burglary/home invasion robbery crimes it is up to each of us to take the necessary steps to ensure our home is protected and our family is safe from criminals who want to inflict harm. Our home is our castle a place to retreat to and know that we are safe.

Target of opportunity

If someone is contemplating breaking into homes in your neighborhood, would your home be considered an easy target? What steps have you taken to make your home a less vulnerable target to a criminal intruder? Because many small businesses and stores have tightened up their protection by installing security systems and camera surveillance systems, this action is making it more difficult for criminals to rob these stores and get away with it. Thus, local homes and neighborhoods now become the *“target of opportunity”* due to the easy ability to make quick cash. Since the majority of homes do not have security systems – the criminal is able to be in and out of a home before the homeowner realizes there has even been a break in.

HOME INVASION PREVENTION

Learn Why Home Invasion Robberies & Home Burglaries Are Becoming More and More Prevalent In Our Society *...And What You Can Do To Avoid Being A Victim!*

There is also less chance of the burglar or intruder being detected in neighborhoods where people are gone most of the day - either working or doing things while the kids are in school. The majority of home burglaries happen between the hours of 9:00 a.m.–3:00 p.m. while people are away from home.

Will the criminals pick you as their victim?

Many times the home invasion criminal will randomly pick their victims. Think about that for a moment. You're out shopping, dining at a nice restaurant, or doing your daily banking and without your knowledge someone has been observing you. When you leave the establishment this person decides to follow you home. Maybe you were selected because of the way you dressed, the nice jewelry you wore, or because you left the bank after withdrawing cash for shopping. Or maybe it is because of the luxury vehicle you were driving. The criminal selected YOU and you weren't even aware of it. This is the time when many people become victims. It is also a time when we need to be observant and very aware of our surroundings.

You may not have realized as you drove away from the restaurant, shopping center, or bank heading home – that someone was following you to your nice, safe home. As you pull into your driveway and your garage this person who has now controls the situation may be able to park and be in your garage before you have a chance to realize what has happened. You are now about to become a victim of a home invasion attack.

Women and senior citizens are usually more of a target and at risk to a home invasion robbery because they pose the least amount threat to the intruder. At least that's what the intruder thinks.

If you get a strange feeling in your "gut" that something doesn't seem or feel quite right, be sure to survey your situation, look around, be observant and aware to anything or anyone that might look strange or suspicious. If you get the type of feeling that can't be explained, it could be your intuition telling you to avoid going home and especially not to go into your driveway or garage. If you have been followed by someone who realizes they've been caught, they may try to block your exit access. Instead of pulling into your driveway go someplace safe away from your home and contact the police.

HOME INVASION PREVENTION

Learn Why Home Invasion Robberies & Home Burglaries Are Becoming More and More Prevalent In Our Society *...And What You Can Do To Avoid Being A Victim!*

Most of you may know what a home invasion robbery is but let's talk about the difference between a home invasion robbery and a home burglary because they do differ.

Home Burglaries vs. Home Invasion Robberies

A residential home invasion robbery occurs when someone enters your home – most of the time using overwhelming physical force and confronts or instills fear in you and takes something from you. Most of the time the intruders are armed and attack in groups of at least 1-2 at a time. The use of force, threat of force, or intimidation is usually required. The home invasion perpetrators actively seek a confrontation with the victims and the threat of violence can usually result in lucrative heists.

Home Invasion Robbers:

- Usually work in groups of 2-4 or more individuals and carry some type of weapon
- Usually hit homes when they know their victims are home; in the early evening
- before people with alarm systems have them turned on; or during the night while people are asleep
- Actually enjoy intimidating their victims and bringing out their greatest fears. It tends to give them a feeling of dominance over their victim
- Will often times physically abuse, rape, and sometimes murder their victims
- Usually tie their victims up, sometimes with duct tape and leave them while they make their escape
- The home invasion robber can torment the victims and obtain information about safes and the combination codes, ATM/credit card codes, and hidden stashes of money.

Home invasion robbery differs from a burglary in that the burglar usually does not want a confrontation with the homeowner. The burglar wants to be in and out of the home in a "stealthy" manner without being detected. If the homeowner walks in unexpectedly on a burglar, in the majority of cases the burglar will immediately flee.

However, if the burglar is in put a desperate situation, all bets may be out the window and he may react like the home invasion perpetrator – with violence and force.

HOME INVASION PREVENTION

Learn Why Home Invasion Robberies & Home Burglaries
Are Becoming More and More Prevalent In Our Society
...And What You Can Do To Avoid Being A Victim!

The Typical Home Burglar:

- Usually works alone. However, he may have a “lookout person” somewhere nearby keeping an eye out for the homeowner
- Will randomly hit homes in nicer neighborhoods; however, a lot of burglars stay close to home since they know the area better
- Usually avoid homes with security systems that display alarm signs and decals. Most burglars want to be in and out quickly and quietly without alerting attention. An alarm system makes too much noise and calls the police
- Usually does not want a confrontation with the homeowner and will flee if the homeowner walks in unexpectedly while the burglary is in process

You need to be aware that home burglaries and home invasions are happening every day in communities and neighborhoods all across this country. Many of the home invasion robbery crimes have become extremely violent with the perpetrators using both force and lethal weapons against their victims. It is up to each of us to ensure the safety and security of our home and family. We know this crime is happening and it gets closer and closer with each passing day. Be proactive with your security by implementing optimum protection strategies for both your home security and personal safety. The peace of mind you and your family will have will be well worth it!

Are You A “High Value Target” For A Home Invasion Robbery?

Who is a *“high value target”* personality? This is probably someone in the executive ranks of a major corporation. It could be CEO's, Presidents, or even lower echelon managers of our banking institutions. Or it could be wealthy sports or TV celebrities.

If you are in the limelight, have articles written about you in the local newspapers, business journals or financial news, your high profile may focus more attention on you to criminals or gangs. Remember these people are looking to make a quick and easy buck by resorting to extortion, home invasions, or even kidnapping of high profile individuals.

HOME INVASION PREVENTION

Learn Why Home Invasion Robberies & Home Burglaries
Are Becoming More and More Prevalent In Our Society
...And What You Can Do To Avoid Being A Victim!

One of the most recent trends in kidnapping attempts to hit the headline news is – *tiger kidnappings*. They are called *tiger kidnappings* because of the way criminal gangs stalk intended victims in advance, and then hold a family member hostage so as to force the victim to provide access to cash held in banks, ATMs, or credit cards. Tiger kidnappings usually target individuals who have access to or an association with a company's cash or valuables. The most frequently-targeted victims are bank employees and business owners who have access to vaults, safes, and other areas where high-worth valuables and cash are stored.

Let's take our banking industry for instance. The criminal may not necessary want the CEO or President of the bank, but instead looks to the local bank manager or assistant manager – the person who holds the key and access to the bank. Someone in the lower echelon of the banking business may not consider themselves a potential home invasion target – yet they may very well be the target! Think how easy it would be to find out who the bank manager or assistant manager is and where they live?

The key to reducing your risks

For people who are obviously at risk, such as key holders in banks, you must develop a situational awareness to your surroundings and become acutely aware of any signs that someone may be following you or is observing your routine. *Avoid routines*. If you have a less rigid routine you may be more difficult to follow or pursue.

Bank and assistant bank managers should have security protection for their home and family just like executives have. They should also following home invasion prevention tips and strategies to help ensure they don't become a home invasion or worse a kidnapping victim

Don't become complacent about your security – no matter who you are. Always be alert and security aware. Make sure your home has a quality security system and protection, that you follow a common sense home security plan, and have an early alert warning system to let you know when you have unwanted visitors on your property approaching your home.

HOME INVASION PREVENTION

Learn Why Home Invasion Robberies & Home Burglaries
Are Becoming More and More Prevalent In Our Society
...And What You Can Do To Avoid Being A Victim!

Ways To Avoid Becoming A Victim Of A Home Invasion Robbery

- 1. Have a Home Security Plan of Action that states exactly what you will do to maintain the safety of your home and family.** This plan should outline some specific strategies that will help to strengthen the perimeter of your home and outline things that you can do to help provide additional protection for family members if you are involved in a home invasion attack. The plan may also encourage taking a self-defense and/or personal safety awareness training class. By learning safety awareness and self-defense techniques and tactics, you will know defensive ways to protect yourself against an attacker whether at home or on the street.
- 2. Install a good quality home security system with 24/7 alarm monitoring.** The alarm company will immediately be alerted to any activity from your home and dispatch the police of any type of home burglary or emergency. Remember the police can't be everywhere and the security and safety of your home and family is your responsibility. Be proactive and protect your home but don't rely solely upon the security system. In addition you should implement solid protection strategies to make your home impenetrable to a home invasion or home burglary. A security system can provide tremendous peace of mind for you and your family.
- 3. Harden the perimeter of your home.** Evaluate perimeter doors, windows, and locks. Make sure to have solid core wood or metal doors for the main entry doors. Reinforce frames around doors that are older or outdated. Upgrade deadbolts and locks to ensure they can provide solid protection in case of a forced intrusion. Since most home invasions happen when criminals kick and force open your door, make sure you have a super strong, quality deadbolt locking system. If your door gets kicked in by a 250 lb intruder, you want to ensure your deadbolt lock will hold the door in place. Check our security partners at www.gettheultimatelock.com to see how effective this locking system can be.
- 4. Install an Early Alert Warning System for your home.** The Voice Alert System will let you know when someone is on your property and within a specific radius of your home. Outdoor sensors transmit an alert warning to a voice annunciator inside your home to let you know what area of your property is being breached by potentially unwanted visitors.

HOME INVASION PREVENTION

Learn Why Home Invasion Robberies & Home Burglaries Are Becoming More and More Prevalent In Our Society *....And What You Can Do To Avoid Being A Victim!*

Would you like to know well ahead of time that someone is trying to enter your home so you have time to respond? *YES should be your answer!*

5. **When you are at home, be sure to keep all doors and windows locked.** If a stranger comes to your door, ***DO NOT*** open your door unless you know precisely who it is. The majority of home invasion robberies happen right through the front door. A homeowner automatically opens the front door without thinking and is confronted by a violent home intruder. Make it a habit to ask who is at the front door before opening. You can always communicate through a closed door. You are under no obligation to open your door to anyone – *especially strangers*. Ask for identification if it is someone claiming to be from a utility or delivery service company. Carry your phone and call to confirm their identity or call 911.
6. **Join or form a Neighborhood Watch Group where neighbors know each other in the immediate vicinity.** Get to know the neighbors across from you. Have a form and get to know your neighbors so you can all watch out for each other. Go across the street 5 houses to the left and 5 houses to the right and do the same on your side 5-houses to the left and 5-houses to the right. Then exchange names, phone numbers, addresses, and vehicle types. Recognize any unfamiliar vehicles especially those driving slowly looking at individual homes. When you arrive home, if there is an unfamiliar vehicle parked in front of your home with people inside, you should drive on especially if you are the least bit in doubt or have a *"gut feeling"* that says *drive on*. (Form attached at the end for neighbor names/addresses).
7. **Always be alert and aware of your surroundings.** Sometimes your intuition or instincts will let you know when something isn't right. Listen! When you are out and about be aware if someone – *perhaps a stranger* - seems to be watching you too closely, seems overly friendly, or way too interested in your personal affairs. Be aware of any vehicle that you feel is following you a little too closely as you drive home.
8. **When you pull into your driveway keep your car doors locked and observe if there are strangers around as you pull into the garage.** While still in your car, close the garage door and make sure it is fully closed as you exit your vehicle. It is easy to

HOME INVASION PREVENTION

Learn Why Home Invasion Robberies & Home Burglaries
Are Becoming More and More Prevalent In Our Society
...And What You Can Do To Avoid Being A Victim!

become overwhelmed with groceries, packages, and work-related items to the point we aren't paying close attention to what is going on in and around the garage area.

9. **Keep some type of personal protection like pepper spray or mace near the front door - easily within reach in case of a forced intrusion.** If you have small children, keep it out of reach and away from them. Some homeowners resort to other non-lethal protection like a TASER or Stun Gun, other homeowners use lethal firearms for their family personal protection. Be sure to follow local, city, and state laws regarding this protection and always make sure you know how to properly use the personal protection you select. Keep in mind that the intruder may be armed so use your best judgment on how you will defend yourself.

10. **Be sure to keep trees and shrubs trimmed around your home so you don't give home intruders an easy place to hide.** Adding motion sensor lights around the home can also provide deterrent value. The best place to install motion sensor lights would be in the front, back, and garage side of the house. A suggestion would be to have the motion lights connected to a light or lamp inside the home. That way if the outdoor motion light is activated it also turns a light on inside the house. This gives the real impression to the burglar that someone may actually be at home.

Simple, Cost Effective Home Protection

The following security products are both cost effective and provide an extra level of strength to your perimeter and interior doors. In my **Home Invasion Prevention Training**, I discuss how these home security products can help reduce the chance of a door being easily kicked in because of the high quality 20-gauge steel frame (Door Brace) and the wedging (Door Stop Alarm) effect that the products offer.

HOME INVASION PREVENTION

Learn Why Home Invasion Robberies & Home Burglaries
Are Becoming More and More Prevalent In Our Society
...And What You Can Do To Avoid Being A Victim!

Dual Function Door Brace



The dual function door brace is a security bar made of rugged 20-gauge steel, is adjustable, and installs easily under the door knob to provide additional security for your doors. The door brace adjusts to most hinged doors and the cap on one end of the door brace can be removed and used on sliding glass doors. With a clean baked enamel finish, homeowners will find the door brace attractive enough to use in their home.

Another recommendation for the Door Brace is in your home's **SAFE ROOM**. This may be the master bedroom, a closet, or another room within your home that you and family members would retreat to in the event of a home invasion. If that happened, one of the first things to do would be to press an alarm emergency panic button (if you have a security system), lock the bedroom door, and put the door brace under the knob handle to prevent the door from being opened or kicked in. If you have no alarm system, quickly call 911.

The door brace will prevent the intruder from opening the door giving the homeowner time to alert the police or grab their personal protection, e.g., pepper spray, TASER, stun gun, or a firearm.

Other ideal uses for the Door Brace would be when you travel, staying in hotels, college dormitories, added security for a son or daughter who lives alone, and much more.

The Door Brace can be purchased at **The Personal Security Store** by going to:
www.thepersonalsecuritystore.com/homeprotection.

HOME INVASION PREVENTION

Learn Why Home Invasion Robberies & Home Burglaries
Are Becoming More and More Prevalent In Our Society
...And What You Can Do To Avoid Being A Victim!

Door Stop Alarm



Most security products on the market today will only alert you after an intruder has entered. This device will not only activate an alarm but will prevent unwanted intruders from entering. If an intruder attempts to enter, the door stop alarm will sound a 125 db alarm and the unit will wedge underneath the door. The wedge-shaped design and non-skid pad on the bottom of the door alarm will hold the door tighter the harder it is pushed.

The door stop alarm is placed on the floor below the door knob with the low end of the unit under the door. If the door is opened it will strike the metal plate, preventing the door from being opened and the 125db alarm will activate.

The Door Stop Alarm is also equipped with a movement sensor which will activate the alarm if the unit is moved. A sensitivity switch allows you to adjust the amount of movement required to set off the door stop alarm.

The Door Stop Alarm can be purchased at **The Personal Security Store** by going to:
www.thepersonalsecuritystore.com/alarm.

Become Proactive – Protect Your Home And Family With A Security System

My twenty years of experience as a Security Specialist allowed me to become very knowledgeable and well-prepared to recommend the most effective security protection for residential and small business customers.

HOME INVASION PREVENTION

Learn Why Home Invasion Robberies & Home Burglaries
Are Becoming More and More Prevalent In Our Society
...And What You Can Do To Avoid Being A Victim!

Over this period of time I helped provide peace of mind to thousands of homeowners by designing home security systems that made customers feel completely safe and well-protected. It was always nice to hear from customers calling to say how much safer they felt about leaving their family home alone when traveling; or how they didn't worry quite as much about their home while on family vacations; and the best part about sleeping at night is knowing their home is protected and security professionals at the 24-Hour Monitoring Center can immediately alert the appropriate authorities in case of a break-in, fire, or an emergency situation.

One thing I have realized over the years is that your home security system is a vital part of your home protection plan – *but don't stop there*. Burglars and violent home intruders have become more sophisticated and don't care whether any harm happens to their victims. Once upon a time having an alarm warning sign in the front of your home by a reputable alarm company (*along with the security system*) was enough criminals. I wouldn't rely solely upon that today. Build a solid perimeter protection with a quality security system to provide the ultimate protection for your home and family.

#1 STEP - SECURE YOUR HOME WITH BURGLARY PROTECTION

All Exterior Doors – A Must To Protect

Count all of the doors that lead into your home. These are doors that you will want to put security protection on. Most break-ins tend to happen through doors – typically ones that were left unlocked or the burglar was able to kick in because it was a flimsy door. If a burglar(s) enters through a window, there is a good chance they will be hauling your stuff out through a door. So protect each door that comes into your home with contact sensors.

A nice feature of your security system is that it will tell you if you leave a door or protected window open. Also when the alarm is in the *off* mode and someone opens a door it will either chime or tell you in a voice that the door is opened.

HOME INVASION PREVENTION

Learn Why Home Invasion Robberies & Home Burglaries
Are Becoming More and More Prevalent In Our Society
...And What You Can Do To Avoid Being A Victim!

Window Protection

The most vulnerable windows are going to be the ones located on the main or basement level of your home. That is not to say the windows on the second level aren't important, but if there is not easy access to those upper level windows, the burglar will typically look at an easier way to enter your home.

Consider the level of security protection you want for your home. If you have had a recent burglary incident, you may want to build Fort Knox. Again, if you are proactive and install security system before a break-in, you can build an excellent level of protection at a reasonable cost. Remember, the more protection you have installed, the more you will pay for your security system. If you have a budget for the security system, keep that in mind. You can always add to your security system if your needs change or you just want to upgrade your protection.

Your security consultant can advise you on other alternative protection for the windows – such as combining motion detectors in an area that catches several windows. Having every window protected can limit opening the windows to allow for ventilation when the alarm is activated – unless you originally set it up that way.

Motion Detectors

Motion Detectors are combined with the perimeter burglary coverage and serves as the interior protection. Some people may not want the motion detector due to cats or dogs, or they have children that get up during the night. No one wants to accidentally trip the alarm system and have the police dispatched.

I have found that when the entire family uses the security system on a daily basis it becomes second nature and your chances of making mistakes are minimal. If you do accidentally set off the alarm, you can easily turn it off and in most cases your alarm

HOME INVASION PREVENTION

Learn Why Home Invasion Robberies & Home Burglaries
Are Becoming More and More Prevalent In Our Society
...And What You Can Do To Avoid Being A Victim!

company will quickly call you before dispatching the police. Just make sure you know the password to identify yourself to the alarm company.

My recommendation is to have at least one motion detector as part of your overall protection level. If you do not want to turn the motion detector on while at home (at night when going to bed), you can easily shut that part of the security system off. However, when you leave to go out of town with the dog and kids always turn the full security system on. Remember, you are building layers of protection for your home security system.

Operating Panels – This Allows You To Control The System

You will most likely have an operating panel (or keypad) at your primary entrance so you can arm and disarm the security system. If you come and go through your garage entry, you will want the main operating panel there. If there are other doors that you use a lot, you may either want a second operating panel or keypad at that location as well.

You can also have a wireless remote keyfob that will allow you to turn the alarm off and on. You may want this on your keychain or leave it on a nightstand. Keep in mind the doors that family members will be coming through - and make the location of your operating panel convenient for everyone. You don't want your children coming through the front door and having to run all the way back to the garage entry to turn off the alarm. You could centrally locate the operating panel between the two locations if you did not want to purchase a second keypad.

I have always preferred having an operating panel in the master bedroom. You can arm the security system easily before going to bed at night. There's a sense of *"peace of mind"* when you roll over during the night and see the little red light on. If you have any disturbance during the night and the alarm goes off, you can see from the keypad what zone location was activated. If you have an English keypad, it will tell you in a voice what door or window was just opened. Having a panic button or fire button also allows you to set off a very loud alarm siren alerting your alarm company to send the police immediately.

HOME INVASION PREVENTION

Learn Why Home Invasion Robberies & Home Burglaries
Are Becoming More and More Prevalent In Our Society
...And What You Can Do To Avoid Being A Victim!

A nice feature of the operating panel is that it will alert you with a chiming or voice as someone enters through a door when the alarm is **OFF**. If you are in one part of your home, you may not be able to hear someone coming in a door. However, if you have a keypad on each level, the chiming or voice annunciation will let you know when someone enters. That way you are alerted and are not surprised to find someone in your home.

Interior and Exterior Sirens

You definitely want an intruder to know he has activated your alarm system if he has gotten into your home. An interior siren will immediately sound once the entry time has expired – *usually 30-45 seconds*. Some doors and windows may be on an instant alarm which means the interior siren will sound immediately. You will want a high decibel interior siren so everyone in the household can hear.

In larger homes you may want to consider more than one interior siren. If you have children or guests who sleep in a lower basement bedroom, make sure they can hear the interior siren. If they cannot, be sure to put one in the lower level. This is especially important for a fire alarm. The exterior siren is usually placed outside where neighbors or others can hear it. More and more homeowners are keeping the alarms on the inside since the police are being immediately notified. This is a personal preference and should be discussed with your installation technician.

Do you have a home security system? If so, congratulations as you have taken steps to proactively protect your home and family. If you do not have a security system, why not look at protecting your home with a good quality security system? The costs are minimal compared to the trauma and personal violation of having a home burglary or home invasion robbery. The peace of mind is well-worth your investment!

Good luck and stay safe!!

Cheryl Watterson
Lets Talk Home Security

HOME INVASION PREVENTION

Learn Why Home Invasion Robberies & Home Burglaries
Are Becoming More and More Prevalent In Our Society
....And What You Can Do To Avoid Being A Victim!

Strengthen The Perimeter Of Your Home With A Quality Security System And Common-Sense Products From Your Local Hardware Store

Here is a list of simple, but effective products that can be used to upgrade and give your home a stronger more impenetrable level of protection. These products will work exceptionally well with a home security system making your home a less vulnerable target of a home burglary or home invasion robbery.

These products can be purchased from your local **Lowes, Home Depot, or Menard's Store**. These are excellent common-sense products that can build layers of protection to an existing **security system** or one that you are planning to have installed. You can easily add these products as your budget allows.

1. **Solid core wood or metal doors** for main entry doors. Reinforce frames around doors that are older or weaker.
2. Upgraded solid, **multi-strong locks** for both doors and windows. **Deadbolts** should have a minimum of 2-3" bolts into reinforced strike plates. **The Ultimate Lock** is an exceptional lock for main entry doors. Make sure you have strong locks on your back slider doors too.
3. Secure **existing windows with new locks** and/or replace with upgraded windows. Single pane glass windows could have security film installed adding an impenetrable shield. ShatterGARD security window film is also an exceptional product.
4. **One-way wide angle viewing peephole** for front door if you have no sidelights next to door. Before opening your door you need to KNOW who is there first! Otherwise DON'T OPEN THE DOOR!
5. **Intercom System** – you can put a unit at the front door to talk with whoever is knocking. Gives better communication without having to open front door. If budget permits, could install a video intercom system so you could actually see who is at the front door.
6. **Automatic outdoor lighting system** with lights that come on at a pre-set time. Have motion detector lights in the front, back, and garage side of the house. For best results install lights on all 4-sides of the house. Also consider having outside lights connected to one or two lamps/lights in the house to come on. This appears as if someone is home.
7. **Outdoor surveillance camera** at front door and garage area. Include a DVD videotaping unit for viewing.

HOME INVASION PREVENTION

Learn Why Home Invasion Robberies & Home Burglaries
Are Becoming More and More Prevalent In Our Society
....And What You Can Do To Avoid Being A Victim!

8. Make sure your **home phone system** has a wireless unit that you can carry with you-as well as having a cell phone in case your phone lines are cut.
9. **Dowell rods** can be placed inside windows that slide up/down or sideways as well as slider doors making it difficult to open without breaking. Dowell rods come in various diameters and offer excellent strength to windows and slider doors.
10. Adding a **quality storm door** with tempered glass to the front entry can add an excellent layer of protection and strength. You could also do the same to the garage entry door.

Having a good quality security system with yard signs *-front and back-* and window decals clearly visible from the street is your first line of defense and an excellent deterrent to crime.

Remember, you are building layers of protection. The stronger the perimeter of your home the harder a home invasion intruder or burglar will have to work to get through. If the intruder has to spend more time and effort trying to break through the perimeter, he will more than likely leave and look for an easier home to target.

Be Sure To Target Harden Your Perimeter With Quality Home Security Protection

HOME INVASION PREVENTION

Learn Why Home Invasion Robberies & Home Burglaries
Are Becoming More and More Prevalent In Our Society
....And What You Can Do To Avoid Being A Victim!

HOME SECURITY RESOURCES

1. **Home Protection by ADT Security**, the world's largest alarm company has been providing home security to millions of homeowners and businesses for over 125 years. Be proactive and take advantage of ADT's **Special Offer** of \$99 after \$200 mail-in cash back rebate. You can download the discount coupon at www.proactivehomeprotection.com When you contact ADT at 1-800-699-9238, be sure to give the **Promotion Code of A29706** to the representative as this will ensure you get proper credit. The ADT representative will discuss your current protection level and security concerns as well as schedule a security professional out to your home or help you get the ADT service started immediately.

Again, one of the first steps to avoid becoming a victim of a home invasion or home burglary is to be proactive! Protect your home today by calling 1-800-699-9238 along with **Promotion Code A29706** to get your peace of mind and home protection started with ADT.

**Introductory price for basic protection coverage. Your needs may be greater and require additional protection.*

2. **The Ultimate Lock** has created the strongest deadbolt in the world. Protect the weakest link in your home's perimeter – your exterior doors – and see how **The Ultimate Lock** strengthens the existing door frame; marries the door jamb and door frame by using extra long screws drilled opposite directions; utilizes two deadbolts that work in unison; has a patented *"lockout"* feature; and a high security 6-pin anti-bump key lock. To learn how The Ultimate Lock can provide optimum protection to your overall home security protection go to www.GetYourUltimateLock.com.

3. **The Voice Alert Driveway & Home System** – an *"Early Alert Warning"* system that lets you know when an intruder approaches your front or back area, cars enter your driveway, people are walking to your front door, or even when someone enters your garage. Would you like to be alerted well-ahead of time before an intrusion or break happens? To learn more go to www.ThePersonalSecurityStore.com/voicealert.htm.

4. Security & Safety Window Film Protection through **ShatterGARD**. Protect vulnerable windows, glass sliders, and large glass windows with **ShatterGARD** window security film. Go to www.Shattergard.com and learn more about this protection for your home or business.

HOME INVASION PREVENTION

Learn Why Home Invasion Robberies & Home Burglaries
Are Becoming More and More Prevalent In Our Society
....And What You Can Do To Avoid Being A Victim!

5. **The Personal Security Store** offers personal protection devices, e.g. Pepper Sprays, Mace Sprays, Stun Guns, TASERS, Personal Alarms, and wireless Home Security protection. Go to www.ThePersonalSecurityStore.com.

6. **Apartment/Condo Security Protection** – Wireless home security systems, door braces, and door guards to secure front/back doors. Go to www.ThePersonalSecurityStore.com

HOME INVASION PREVENTION

Learn Why Home Invasion Robberies & Home Burglaries
Are Becoming More and More Prevalent In Our Society
....And What You Can Do To Avoid Being A Victim!

Get To Know Your Immediate Neighbors

Up To 5 Neighbors Across The Street Both Left & Right Sides

Up To 5 Neighbors Your Side Of The Street Both Left & Right

Name/Phone #/Address Across-Left

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

4. _____

5. _____

Name/Phone #/Address Across-Right

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

4. _____

5. _____

YOUR HOME

Name/Phone #/Address Left

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

4. _____

5. _____

Name/Phone #/Address Right

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

4. _____

5. _____

HOME INVASION PREVENTION

Learn Why Home Invasion Robberies & Home Burglaries
Are Becoming More and More Prevalent In Our Society
....And What You Can Do To Avoid Being A Victim!

Let's Talk Home Security Radio Show

Listen Online @ <http://www.blogtalkradio.com/letstalkhomesecurity>

Listen Via Telephone – (646) 727-3396

Wednesday, 6:00 p.m. AM/Eastern – 3:00 PM/Pacific



Join me every Wednesday, 6:00 p.m. Eastern Standard Time when we talk with Security Experts, Crime Prevention Specialists from across the country, and others in the security industry who will provide insights into the best way we can effectively protect our home and family from home invasion robberies, home burglaries, and how we can stay safe 24/7 whether we are home or away!