# IMPORTANT CITY GOVERNMENT NUMBERS

The MOST important thing **YOU** can do is **CALL THE POLICE** to report a **CRIME** or any **SUSPICIOUS** activity. If you need Police Assistance call **901-545-COPS** or **911** in the case of an Emergency.

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Memphis Police Department - Neighborhood Watch
Home Security Checklist

Use this as a guide as you check your home for safety measures. Boxes marked “no” indicate areas where you could take action to improve your home’s security. These are just some of the steps you can take to decrease the likelihood that you or your home is targeted.

**Exterior Doors**

All doors are locked at night and every time we leave the house—even if it’s just for a few minutes.

Yes \ No

□ □

Doors are solid hardwood or metal-clad.

□ □

Doors feature wide-angle peepholes at heights everyone can use.

□ □

If there are glass panels in or near our doors, they are reinforced in some way so that they cannot be shattered.

□ □

All entryways have a working, keyed entry lock and sturdy deadbolt lock installed into the frame of the door.

□ □

Spare keys are kept with a trusted neighbor, not under a doormat or planter, on a ledge, or in the mailbox.

□ □

**Garage and Sliding Door Security**

The door leading from the attached garage to the house is solid wood or metal-clad and protected with a quality keyed door lock and deadbolt.

□ □

The overhead garage door has a lock so that we do not rely solely on the automatic door opener to provide security.

□ □

Garage doors are all locked when leaving the house.

□ □

The sliding glass door has a strong, working key locks.

□ □

A dowel or a pin to secure a glass door has been installed to prevent the door from being shoved aside or lifted off the track.

□ □

The sliding door is locked every night and each time we leave the house.

□ □

**Protecting Windows**

Every window in the house has a working key lock or is securely pinned.

□ □

Windows are always locked, even when they are opened a few inches for ventilation.

□ □

**Outdoor Security**

Shrubs and bushes are trimmed so there is no place for someone to hide.

□ □

There are no dark areas around our house, garage, or yard at night that would hide prowlers.

□ □

Every outside door has a bright, working light to illuminate visitors.

□ □

continued on back
Floodlights are used appropriately to ensure effective illumination.

Outdoor lights are on in the evening—whether someone is at home or not or a photocell or motion-sensitive lighting system has been installed.

Our house number is clearly displayed so police and other emergency vehicles can find the house quickly.

**Security When Away From Home**

At least two light timers have been set to turn the lights on and off in a logical sequence, when we are away from home for an extended time period.

The motion detector or other alarm system (if we have one) has been activated when we leave home.

Mail and newspaper deliveries have been stopped or arrangements for a neighbor/friend to pick them up have been made when we go away from home for a period of time.

A neighbor has been asked to tend the yard and watch our home when we are away.

**Outdoor Valuables and Personal Property**

Gate latches, garage doors, and shed doors are all locked with high-security, laminated padlocks.

Gate latches, garage doors, and shed doors are locked after every use.

Grills, lawn mowers, and other valuables are stored in a locked garage or shed, or if left out in the open, are hidden from view with a tarp and securely locked to a stationary point.

Every bicycle is secured with a U-bar lock or quality padlock and chain.

Bikes are always locked, even if we leave them for just a minute.

Firearms are stored unloaded and locked in storage boxes and secured with trigger guard locks.

Valuable items, such as television, stereos, and computers have been inscribed with identifying number approved by local police.

Our home inventory is up-to-date and includes pictures. A complete copy is kept somewhere out of the house.
OUTSIDE YOUR HOME

Protect your home by starting where burglars usually start... OUTSIDE

A. LANDSCAPING
B. HOUSE NUMBERS
C. LIGHTING
D. CHECK LIST

Memphis Police Department - Neighborhood Watch
A. LANDSCAPING

BE AWARE OF YOUR SURROUNDINGS!

Prune lower limbs that could assist thieves in climbing up to the second floor or hard to reach entryways.

Trim trees and bushes so that doors and windows are visible to neighbors.

Are there trees near your house?

Think twice when considering installing high wooden privacy fences. This can enable criminals to work unobserved, with little worries of being caught.

Put away, and out of sight, ladders and tools. Ask your neighbors to do the same.

Trellises are attractive, but they should be placed in locations that can not be used as ladders and tools to gain entry into your home.

Memphis Police Department - Neighborhood Watch
B. HOUSE NUMBERS

- Make sure that law enforcement and fire service agencies can locate your house in case of an emergency.
- House numbers should be clearly visible day and night from the street.
- Use numbers made from reflective materials that are at least six inches in height or black numbers against a white background.
- Avoid using scripted letters for numbers - they can be confusing.
- If the house is a distance from the street, post the number at the entrance to your driveway.
- If the house occupies a corner, place the number facing the street of your address.

Memphis Police Department - Neighborhood Watch
C. LIGHTING

The porch, yard, and each entrance to your home and garage should be well lighted.

A spotlight may be the best for your needs, but other kinds of lights work just as well at a lesser cost.

Outside lights should be kept on all night to illuminate your home.

Criminals usually operate in the dark and they do not like to be seen so they "avoid the spotlight."

Using a timer is helpful when you are away or should come home after dark.

Motion sensor lights are also very helpful in burglary deterrence.