

BURGLARY PREVENTION FOR BUSINESSES



LIGHTING



Good lighting, both inside and outside is probably the single most effective and inexpensive deterrent to burglary. Lighting destroys the cover of darkness burglars prefer to work in. Lights should cover:

- All points of entry
- Alleys
- Passageways
- The back of the store (entry points, alleys, and passageways)
- Safe and cash register
- Valuable merchandise (but try to keep it out of display windows at night)

STORE ARRANGEMENT



Arrange your stock so that a burglar working on a far corner of the shop could be seen by someone walking by.

- Be sure not to have stacked boxes, a vehicle parked close to the building, ladders, or any other items in or around your store that could provide cover for a burglar
- If you store some of your stock outside, it should be well-lighted and enclosed by a high and sturdy fence
- Try not to leave merchandise on display in the windows overnight

DOORS



Here are a few tips on how to make the doors in your business safer and more secure:

- Exterior doors should be heavy, solid, and not hollow
- Wooden doors should be metal-lined to resist sawing and drilling
- Glass panels can be protected against being kicked or knocked out with iron bars, a heavy-duty screen, or break-resistant glass
- Side and back entrances can also have metal bars as wide as the inside of the door that can be dropped into place at closing time
- Hinge pins on doors should be installed inside so that they cannot be removed by a thief
- Avoid spring latch locks that can be opened by using a knife blade, a thin piece of metal, or a plastic strip

WINDOWS



Window security is just as important as door security. Here are some guidelines on protecting the windows of your business:

- Use break-resistant glass, especially for display windows
- Protect rear and side windows with grillwork (iron bars) or by heavy-duty screens
- Check with a good locksmith to see if the security of your windows could be enhanced by locks
- Do not place banners, signs, or merchandise in windows that block the line of sight into your business

BURGLARY PREVENTION FOR BUSINESSES



HIDING PLACES

Check all potential hiding places, like closets, storage areas and restrooms before closing up.



CASH, SAFES AND CASH REGISTERS

Your business's safe and cash registers should be clearly visible from the street.

- Leave the cash register drawer open and empty after business hours
- The safe should be of good quality and firmly anchored. Lock your blank checks in the safe
- Avoid having large amounts of cash on the premises. Make bank deposits at varying times during the day



ALARM AND SURVEILLANCE SYSTEMS

There are a variety of alarm and surveillance systems that can help deter a burglar and provide evidence for police to investigate if a crime does occur.

- Get a system that either monitors itself or can be easily checked regularly to make sure it's in good working order
- If you have a burglar alarm and/or surveillance cameras, make it obvious by placing a decal on the door, a decal on the window, or the alarm or cameras visible from the outside



EMPLOYEE THEFT

Employee theft is the most frequent criminal event in business.

- Employees have the greatest opportunity to steal because they have access to the assets and are familiar with the operation of the business
- Many business operators place too much trust (described as "irresponsible trust") in those individuals responsible for cash and inventory
- One of the most frequent methods of employee theft of cash is by manipulating sales transactions
- Other means of employee theft include misuse of coupons, gift certificates, complimentary passes and credit cards



QUESTIONS?

Contact the Frederick Police Department

720.382.5700

333 Fifth Street, Frederick, CO 80530