



# AUTO THEFTS ON THE RISE: WHAT CAN YOU DO?

Auto theft and break-ins are increasing. Here are ways to prevent your vehicle from being targeted:

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## **Park smart.**

Park in well-lit areas, and well-trafficked, to help deter theft and car break-ins. When at home, parking inside a garage or locked, gated area will also help protect your vehicle.

## **Don't leave valuables in the car.**

Luggage, purses, valuable items, and even change are enough to entice a thief to attempt to break into your car. Whenever possible, bring all items of value inside with you. If not possible, store away in the trunk and hidden from sight.

## **Never leave keys in your vehicle or your car running unattended.**

It may seem like common sense, but it's a surprisingly common way thieves steal cars. Even if you're in your driveway, never leave your keys in the car and your car running unattended. This is the easiest way for a thief to jump in and drive away in the blink of an eye.



## **Lock all doors and windows.**

Never leave your doors unlocked or windows rolled down, even cracked open. Make it a habit to double check that all windows are rolled up and your car door is locked.

## **Do not leave spare keys in or near your vehicle.**

Keep your keys on your person. Give a spare key to someone you trust in case of an emergency or leave the spare at home.

## **Install anti-theft devices for your car.**

One of the best ways to deter theft is to install a car alarm system. Other options include steering wheel and pedal locks and vehicle immobilizers. A GPS tracking device will also help recover your vehicle if it's stolen.