

What else can I do?

The Livingston Police Department offers programs to help prevent thefts. These include:

- *Property engraving program*
- *Home security surveys*
- *Neighborhood Watch Program*
- *Bicycle registration*
- *Adult education seminars on various topics related to crime prevention*

If you live outside Livingston, check with your local police department to see what programs are offered.



Community Policing Unit

333 S. Livingston Ave.
Livingston, NJ 07039

Phone: (973) 992-3000 ext. 3600

Livingston Police
Department

Protecting Your Possessions from Thieves



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(973) 992-3000 extension 3600

Tips to protect your home from burglaries

Doors

- Doors should be locked at night and every time you leave your residence.
- Exterior doors should be solid hardwood or metal clad and should have a peephole.
- All entryways should have a working, keyed entry lock and sturdy deadbolt lock installed into the frame of the door.
- Spare keys should be kept with a trusted neighbor, not under a doormat or planter, on a ledge, or in a mailbox.
- If there are glass panels in or near doors, they should be reinforced in some way so that they cannot be shattered. You can use lexan or security film.
- There are locking and blocking devices available in any hardware store that will prevent a sliding door from being lifted or forced horizontally.

- The door leading from the attached garage to the house should be solid wood or metal clad and protected with a quality keyed door lock and deadbolt and should be locked when not in use.

Windows

- Every window in the house should have a working key lock or be securely pinned.
- Windows should always be locked even when they opened a few inches for ventilation.
- Windows have latches, not locks and therefore should have secondary blocking devices to prevent sliding them open from the outside.
- Ladders stored outside should be secured so that access cannot be gained to upper-story windows.
- Window air conditioning units should be secured so that they cannot be pushed inside for easy access.

Outdoor Security

- Shrubs and bushes should be trimmed so there is no place for someone to hide.
- Floodlights should be used to ensure effective illumination.

- Outdoor lights should be on in the evening – whether someone is at home or not, or a photocell or motion-sensitive lighting system should be installed.
- Gate latches, garage doors, and shed doors should be locked with high-security, laminated padlocks.
- Grills, lawn movers, and other valuables should be stored in a locked garage or shed, or if left out in the open, should be hidden from view with a tarp and securely locked to a stationary point.

Other Tips

- Valuable items, such as electronics, should be inscribed with an identifying number.
- Keep your home inventory is up-to-date and include pictures. A complete inventory should be kept somewhere out of the house. You can find free forms to use online.

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