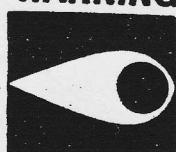


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CAR CRIMES

How to Protect Your Car and Its Contents from Theft

Of all car thefts and thefts of valuables from cars, most occur in parking lots; and the most common entry is via unlocked doors. Many people even leave their keys inside their cars. *PLEASE, DO ALL YOU CAN TO HELP PREVENT THIEVES FROM BEING SUCCESSFUL* by following these simple tips:

While Away from Your Car

- * Try to park in well-lighted and well-traveled areas.
- * Don't invite a break-in by leaving valuables, such as cameras, tapes or packages in plain sight. Either take them along or lock them in the trunk. If you don't have a trunk, put them as much out of sight as possible, on the floor or under a seat. (It's best to do this before you get to your parking spot, so a potential thief won't be able to watch where you are putting your valuables.)
- * Remember to lock up and take your keys with you.
- * Don't hide a second set of keys in your car (or on your car, i.e. in magnetic boxes). Thieves will only find them.
- * Consider engraving your WA driver's license number on any removable equipment such as tape decks and CBs. When you've marked the property, put one-inch Crime Watch stickers on the side windows to let the potential thief know that your valuables are marked.
- * Record the item's brand name, model number, and serial number in your property inventory. Keep your inventory in a safe place.
- * You can increase the security of your car by adding one of several theft-deterrent devices which are available in auto or hardware stores. Or, you can make your own. Special locking devices are even available for marketable parts of a car, including the battery and tape deck.

While In Your Car

- * Maintain your car in good running order and check the gas gauge before each trip.
- * Avoid stopping your car for unexpected roadside situations. If you notice a stalled car, you can report it to the nearest law enforcement agency. NEVER PICK UP HITCH-HIKERS.
- * In the event you have car trouble, raise the hood, tie a cloth to the antenna or door handle, and stay inside your locked car until help arrives. If a good samaritan stops, keep windows closed, but ask the person to call the police.

Remember, CRIME is the thief's business, PREVENTION is yours.



Bellevue Police Department



CO
ME

HELP

Keep this—in your glove compartment. In case of an emergency, it could become valuable to you.

To Get Help—in vehicle, open window slightly and place card through crack then close window on card in order to hold it in place.

To Give Help—when you see a “Send Help” card displayed, do not stop. Signal your intentions to send help by blowing your horn. Then proceed to the nearest telephone and notify someone who is in the business of rendering assistance such as a service station or the police. Take no chances. Your personal safety is important too.