

# Ten Steps to Apartment Security

# A P A R T M E N T S E C U R I T Y

- 1. KEEP DOORS AND WINDOWS LOCKED, EVEN WHEN AT HOME.**  
Most break & enters occur through patio doors and windows. Always use secondary locks and don't leave home with these areas unsecured.
- 2. USE TIMERS ON LIGHTS.**  
Make it appear that someone is always home by leaving interior lights and your t.v. or radio on.
- 3. REPORT ANY PROPPED-OPEN OR WEAK ENTRANCES IN THE BUILDING.** Alert your manager for attention or maintenance.
- 4. NEVER ASSUME A STRANGER WANDERING IN THE BUILDING IS A TENANT OR AUTHORIZED GUEST.** Challenge him or her. Even "Can I help you?" will often deter the dishonest. If they say they are with a service company (e.g. telephone, cable, power, etc), ask to see identification. When in doubt, alert the manager or police.
- 5. ALWAYS USE ANTI-THEFT DEVICES ON YOUR VEHICLES.**  
Even if your building has a gated underground, using anti-theft devices and removing valuables reduces your risk to vehicle theft.
- 6. NEVER 'BUZZ' ANYONE INTO THE BUILDING VIA THE INTERCOM SYSTEM WITHOUT KNOWING WHO THEY ARE.**  
The caller should be expected or, if unsolicited, met at the front door.
- 7. NEVER ALLOW PEOPLE INTO YOUR SUITE UNLESS YOU KNOW THEM.** Meet them in the lobby or talk to them in the hallway. Never leave service personnel alone or unescorted inside your suite.
- 8. ALWAYS KEEP MONEY AND VALUABLES IN A SAFE PLACE.**  
Do not leave cash and jewellery in open or obvious locations. Make use of bank safety deposit boxes or hiding places within the apartment.
- 9. MARK ALL PROPERTY FOR IDENTIFICATION.** Engravers are available to borrow from Community Police Centres. Contact the Crime Prevention section for tips and information on marking your valuables for future identification.
- 10. DON'T ASSUME EVERYBODY IS AS HONEST AS YOU.** Take care of your property and that of your neighbours. Alert the manager and police to any suspicious behaviour.

**Be security minded.**

**You are the "eyes and ears" of your apartment community.**



*Vancouver Crime Free Multi-Housing Program  
Promoting Safe & Crime Free Apartment Communities*



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