

# Safeguard Your House.

## What Can I Do?

Check the condition of your house doors and door frames. Should they be repaired or replaced? All exterior doors should be either metal or solid core wood (1-3/4 inch thick). Always use a licensed locksmith. Security devices for windows vary, depending on the type of window and its location. All accessible windows in a private house need securing. Second-story windows can be accessed by ladder, trash cans, nearby trees, garage rooftops, or shrubbery, and basement windows are one of the most popular points of entry for a burglar.



### Lighting

Illuminate the perimeter of your house and door areas with enough light to see.



### Timers

Use timers throughout the house that have variable time changes.



### Mailbox

Avoid displaying the first names of family members on the mailbox.



### Shrubbery

Cut or trim shrubbery so that it does not obstruct viewing from inside or outside.



### Air Conditioners

Secure air conditioners to the window opening to prevent them being pulled out or pushed in.



### Window Gate

On the first floor, or on any emergency exit window (fire escape), use a window gate – commonly known as the “ferry” or “safety gate” – approved by the New York City Board of Standards and Appeals.



### Garage

Secure an attached garage as you would your dwelling, as it is an access point into your house.



### Alarms

There are a variety of alarm systems available in different price ranges. Get estimates for your alarm needs from at least three established alarm companies.

## Locks

- Use a deadbolt lock with a one-inch throw bolt or a heavy duty drop-bolt lock.
- Install a highly pick-resistant cylinder.
- Protect the cylinder with a guard plate.
- Do not use a double-cylinder lock; that is, a lock that has a key on both sides. It can be deadly if a fire breaks out.