

Pine Tree Village

SECURITY IDEAS FOR HOMEOWNERS



I. ENTRANCE DOORS

- A. Florida-state approved hurricane impact entry doors will best protect against intruders as well as hurricanes.
- B. Both front and side garage doors should be secured with a deadbolt with a one inch throw bolt.
- C. The screws securing the strike plate should be 3 inches long. The standard short screws will give when forcibly kicked.
- D. A 160 degree peep hole will allow for viewing a person seeking entrance without opening the door. Once the door is opened the size of the deadbolt and screws become irrelevant. The same is true of any alarm system.
- E. If the door hinge is on the outside insert a 3 inch screw under each pin in each hinge. This makes it difficult to remove the pin with a hammer and large nail.
- F. Develop the habit of locking all doors as a default setting. Leave the house for mail or newspaper? Lock it upon return. It's far easier to unlock a door to let yourself out than it is to get an intruder out.
- G. If you are unable to install deadbolts contact a local locksmith.

II. SLIDING GLASS DOORS

A. SECURITY WINDOW FILMS

1. SCOTCHSHIELD ULTRA SAFETY AND SECURITY WINDOW FILM

To upgrade original/old sliding glass doors:

“A tough, new dimension in window film technology for property protection against high wind, vandalism, theft and accidents. This technology combines multiple, micro-thin layers which bonds to the inside of your window. Tear and penetration-resistant to hold the glass together.”

“Holds glass together in the event of a break-in or in severe weather. Blocks heat and reduces hot spots by rejecting up to 97% of the sun's infrared rays.” (*3M website literature*).

A video on this product can be seen by Googling:

3M security film video.

This film can be purchased at home improvement stores or can be purchased and installed by local vendors including:

Sun King Window Tinting	800 759 4062
Southern Glass Protection	561 988 8833
Walt's Window Repair & Screening	561 571 0997
Southeast Energy	561 883 1051

2. ARMOR GLASS SECURITY WINDOW FILM

“Armor Glass Security Window Film saves energy and glass from a window breach by explosion, hurricanes or tornado debris. It has passed the large missile test and will also prevent breach by burglars or vandals while screening 99% of harmful UV.” *(From their website.) A video of this product being tested can be seen by Googling Armor Glass Security Film Video)*

Solartek Window Tinting	561 921 5974
Heatwave Window Tinting	561 502 9000
American Window Tinting	561 315 8029

III. SLIDING GLASS DOOR REPAIR/UPGRADE OR REPLACEMENT

A. Repair/Upgrade

1. The best but most expensive sliding glass door is the hurricane impact-resistant doors. Already installed? No need to tinker. These doors are virtually impassible to the average no-goodnick.
2. To make lifting the door off the track more difficult for intruders, install one of a variety of pins designed to end that vulnerability. Because a miscalculation can shatter the glass, it is might best to hire a professional. An inexpensive substitute for a pin is a bar.

B. Additional Ideas:

1. Drop mail off at the Post Office instead of placing in the road-side mailbox
2. Attach a clip to the inside of the kitchen door to the garage. When a letter is ready to be mailed clip it to the door. In the morning, remove the letter and place it in the mailbox. Mail inside a road-side mailbox is always safer in the daylight than the dark.

IX. VITAL PAPERS IN THE HOUSE

- A. Make copies of vital papers such as your driver's license, passport, wills, insurance policies, etc. Then do one or more of the following:
1. Mail copies to a relative living out of the state. This allows for replacement and information after a major storm, flood, fire, etc.
 2. Keep originals in a bank vault or a fireproof home vault. Do not lock the home vault. A locked home vault will be taken by robbers with the assumption that there are valuables in this (treasure) box. If the vault is opened robbers can search for money, etc. but will more than likely not take useless paperwork. The box, however, will provide protection against a home fire.

With any problem, there are solutions. Always make an informed decision based on your specific situation.