

HOME SECURITY

We enjoy a positive sense of community in Canberra, and we can build on this by keeping a look out for our neighbours' property, especially if they're away from home.

Offering to collect a neighbour's mail or to park your car in their driveway are just a couple of the easy ways you can help reduce the chance they will be a target for burglary.

And if you're going away, make sure you cancel deliveries of milk and papers, and have timer switches installed on lights and radios.

Another good way to protect property from would-be thieves is to identify valuables and compile a list of your belongings. Not only does this act as a deterrent, you'll also give ACT Policing a better chance of finding stolen property and returning it to you.

A program called "My Stuff" is an easy-to-use home security record management software system provided free-of-charge by ACT Policing, to help you protect your property. It allows you to create an accurate, concise, and permanent record of your personal property.

"My Stuff" also includes a number of important home security tips to help safeguard your home and property against house break-ins. You can download a copy from <http://www.nhwact.com.au> by clicking on the 'My Stuff' link in the left side margin Resource menu.

It's important to remember that we're very lucky in Canberra to live in one of the safest communities in Australia, however it's still a good idea to take a few simple precautions.

Having an alarm installed is one good anti-burglary measure you can take. Likewise, keeping your front door locked when you're at the back of the house, keeping cash and valuables out of sight, and trimming bushes and trees to provide clear visibility of access points into your home are all simple measures which could be the key to preventing a burglary at your home.

It's also a good idea to ensure your house number is clearly visible from the street, in case there is an emergency.

Remember – look out for your neighbours, and take a few simple steps around your own home, to help make your neighbourhood more secure.