

BASEMENT DOORS AND WINDOWS

- Is there a door from outside to the basement?
- If so, is that door adequately secured for an exterior door?
- Is the outside basement entrance lighted by exterior light of at least 40 watts?
- Is outside basement door concealed from street or neighbors?
- Are all basement windows adequately secured against entry?

Yes	No

GARAGE DOORS AND WINDOWS

- Is automobile entrance door to garage equipped with adequate locking device?
- Is garage door kept closed and locked at all times?
- Are garage windows secured adequately for ground floor windows?
- Is outside utility entrance to garage as secure as required for any ground floor entrance?
- Are tools and ladders kept in garage?
- Are all garage doors lighted on the outside by at least a 40 watt light?

Yes	No

HOW TO KEEP BURGLARS OUT--POINTS TO REMEMBER

1. Garages should be as secure as any other area of the house because:
 - They often contain ladders and tools which could be helpful to a burglar.
 - Attached garages provide visual cover for a burglary.
2. House Number should be clearly displayed front and back.
3. Lights---Exterior flood lights (front and back) and over garage are recommended. Interior-timed lighting devices should be utilized when not at home.
4. Basement Windows are often overlooked by homeowners, basement windows should be secured to prevent forced entry.
5. Window locks should not be vulnerable if the glass is broken. Screening materials can be used effectively on these window wells or on window framing.
6. Doors--Solid core wood doors with rugged frames that cannot be spread apart with a pry bar are recommended.
7. Door Locks--Quality dead bolt locks having a minimum 1-inch throw are recommended. These should be mounted so one cannot open the door after breaking a window. Mounting the lock low on the door can sometimes eliminate this problem. In other cases, a double cylinder lock will solve the problem.
8. Shrubs--Should be kept low enough so as not to block possible points of entry or to conceal a potential attacker.
9. Windows--Glass is most vulnerable to attack. Fortunately, many burglars are reluctant to break windows because of noise and because windows are often visible from the street or from neighboring dwellings. Windows hidden from view pose the most risk of entry.

Each question on the checklist to which you have answered no indicates a security weakness which is a concern to us as we seek to protect you and your property. If you would like professional advice and/or assistance in making your property more secure, please feel free to contact the Ross Township Police Department and we will be happy to come to your home and do a security survey with you.