SELF AUDIT INSTRUCTIONS

The instructions, located on the inside of this pamphlet, will assist you in completing a security self-audit of your home.

At the end of the self-audit you may assess your risk status by focusing on the "No" answers indicated on your completed form. Please consider making changes to the areas of concern on your self-audit. This guide does not assure that you will not be the victim of crime, however, the greater attention you pay to the security of your home, the better your security environment will be.

Six simple steps to conduct the security self-audit:

- 1. Have two people complete the form together. Two different perspectives will provide beneficial information.
- 2. Begin by going to the end of your block and then walk towards your home.
- 3. Answer the questions to describe the <u>Landscape Design</u> of your residence.
- 4. Answer the questions to describe the *Exterior Elements* of your residence.
- 5. Answer the questions to describe the *Interior Elements* of your residence.
- 6. Conduct the self-audit during day time hours and night time hours.

A careful inspection can indicate features which would make entry either easy or difficult for a prospective criminal. Chances are good that your home security can be improved. Your focus should be on entry points in your residence, and to determine what steps can reduce vulnerability.

A variety of security modifications can be simple, inexpensive and very effective.

SECURITY TIPS



Consider purchasing a 'diversion safe', which is a container that looks like a routine household product, but is designed to hold valuables discreetly. These can be loaded and placed in routine locations to keep small valuables hidden in plain view.



Install flat head screws in the upper channel and lay a length of wood, such as a hockey stick shaft, in the lower channel of a sliding glass door. This prevents the door from being lifted out or opened from the outside.



Drop in to any Waterloo Regional Police Service patrol division and borrow an electric pencil. It can be used to inscribe a driver's licence number onto your larger valuable items. This is an easily traceable number that police can query if your property is found.



Never give unknown callers information about you or your property.



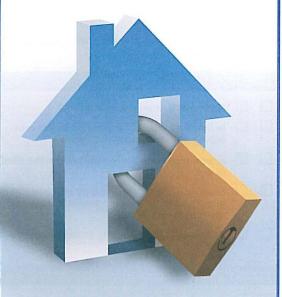
Make sure you lock garden sheds or large containers on your property to prevent theft and access to tools that can be used to break into your home.





WATERLOO REGIONAL POLICE SERVICE

HOME SECURITY SELF-AUDIT



HOMEOWNER'S AND TENANT'S GUIDE





Waterloo Regional Police Service - Home Security Self Audit



These suggestions and observations will draw your attention to areas that, if corrected, may lower your chances of being a victim of crime.

LANDSCAPING	DOORS & LOCKS	ALARM SYSTEMS
YES NO Trees trimmed to maximize eyewitness potential. Spiny, thorny or otherwise hostile vegetation around fencing and low level windows. Trees trimmed or located as to not allow access to second floor? Continue to groom & maintain landscaping. Can neighbours see into your backyard? If your property is fenced, are gates routinely locked?	YES NO Are exterior doors solid core or steel? Peep hole" on exterior door? Sliding patio doors secured by screws and/or bars? Do your deadbolt locks have the required minimun 1"throw into the door jam? Exterior strike plate secured with 3" long screws?	YES NO Have you considered a security alarm system? All responsible parties know how to arm & disarm the alarm system? Does your system have a back up power supply? GARAGE Are garage windows secured to deny access at all times? Garage openers not left in vehicles parked
LIGHTING ☐ Motion activated exterior lights? ☐ ☐ Is there adequate illumination to prevent	WINDOWS Do your windows have working lock mechanisms? Sliding windows secured by screws or bars?	outside of garage? When away for extended periods, is the garage door disconnected from the inside? Remove hand tools like hammers, drills and pry bars?
hiding near windows and doors? House number clearly visible from the road at night? Have you considered energy efficient lighting	Semi-permanent security bars or grills on basement windows? Have you considered window security film?	MISCELLANEOUS Are tool sheds, bikes kept locked at all times?
applications which also assist in suspect identification? Are all walkways leading to the residence well lit?	WHEN AWAY □ □ Do you cancel newspapers while away? □ □ Are trusted neighbours or friends asked to watch your home?	☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐
YOUR NEIGHBOURHOOD Do you know all of your neighbours names? Do you know your neighbours street addresses? Do you call police when you observe	your nome? Do you have your mail, newspaper etc stopped, picked up or re-directed? Do you have your lawn/snow removal maintained? Interior lights on timers when away?	passports, stocks, bonds, etc) kept off site in a safety deposit box? Have you completed a video and written inventory of your valuables including serial numbers?
Do you call police when you observe suspicious vehicles or people? Other Ideas & Suggestions for Improved Security	interior rights on timers when away?	☐ ☐ Are valuables inscribed with your driver's licence number?