

SECURITY TIP FOR THE MONTH

Door Locks

Door locks are your first line of security. Most burglars come through an existing opening. Double-cylinder deadbolts are the most secure. The bolt should be at least one inch long and should be hardened steel. The plate into which the deadbolt fits should be installed with screws long enough to engage the stud behind the doorframe and not just the doorframe. You get what you pay for with locks - buy the best.

When moving into a new house, have a reputable locksmith install new locks and then establish a good key control policy. "Key-in-the knob" locks offer very little protection and should be replaced. Auxiliary locks on doors, typically a sliding piece attached by a chain, are not recommended. And, never, ever open a door unless you know who is there.

~Bob Austin, Chairman~