

SECURITY DEVICES AND ALARMS

No security device is foolproof, but good vehicle security can greatly reduce your chances of becoming a victim. Consider installing the following security devices:

- A good quality steering wheel locking device.
- A circular metal band, or “collar”, to protect the ignition lock from tampering.
- Auxiliary locking devices for sliding windows, spare tires and the hood.
- Tapered door lock buttons.
- A kill switch or cutoff switches (an electrical device that effectively immobilizes the vehicle, even if the ignition has been forced).
- A Stolen Vehicle Recovery System (SVRS) installed in your vehicle to assist law enforcement with tracking and recovering the vehicle should it be stolen.
- Install an anti-theft system if the vehicle does not have one.
- Remote activated panic alarm.



CONTACTS

If you would like more information about Vehicle Protection please contact your local Crime Prevention Specialist at any of the following Sheriff Stations:

4S RANCH SUBSTATION	(858) 521-5216
ALPINE STATION	(619) 659-2608
FALLBROOK SUBSTATION	(760) 451-3124
IMPERIAL BEACH SUBSTATION	(619) 498-2435
LAKESIDE SUBSTATION	(619) 938-1364
LEMON GROVE STATION	(619) 337-2162
NORTH COASTAL STATION	(760) 966-3500
POWAY STATION	(858) 513-2810
RAMONA SUBSTATION	(760) 738-2425
RANCHO SAN DIEGO STATION	(619) 660-7090
SAN MARCOS STATION	(760) 510-5200
SANTEE STATION	(619) 956-4000
VALLEY CENTER SUBSTATION	(760) 751-4408
VISTA STATION	(760) 940-4551

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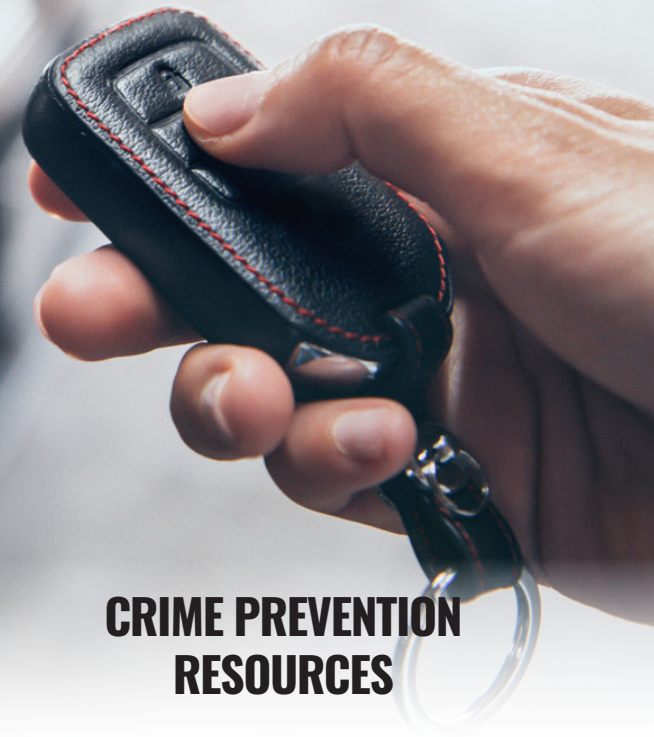


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SAN DIEGO COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT

PROTECT YOUR VEHICLE



CRIME PREVENTION
RESOURCES

DON'T MAKE IT EASY FOR CAR THIEVES

The quicker a thief can steal something the more attractive it is.

A criminal usually does not want to be seen, does not want to be heard and does not want to take an excessive amount of time. You can greatly increase your protection against this type of crime by taking the following precautions:



KEEP YOUR VEHICLE LOCKED

Lock all doors and roll up the windows whenever you leave your vehicle unattended.

Never leave your keys in an unattended car, even while running a quick errand.

Never attach a tag with your name and address to a key ring.

When having your car serviced or parked, leave only your ignition key and take the rest of the keys with you.

Do not keep an extra key hidden anywhere in the vehicle. If you need a spare, consider leaving an extra one with a family member or friend who lives nearby.



REDUCE A THIEF'S TEMPTATION

- Use all the security measures you have wherever you park, even in your garage.
- At work and in commercial areas, park close to the entrance in a well-lit area near pedestrian traffic.
- At home, the best place to park is in a well-secured garage with car doors locked and alarm set.
- Remove garage door openers from the vehicle. Your remote can be converted to a key chain size, which you can keep in a pocket or a purse.
- Never leave valuables in plain sight, including cellphones, electronic devices and credit cards.
- When out shopping, be mindful of where you park and do not leave packages where people can see them in your vehicle.
- When equipment or tools must be kept in a vehicle, use a strong-walled, tamper proof box that can be bolted down and secured with high security locks. Consider the value of the equipment when choosing your locks.

IDENTIFICATION

Many specialized vehicles do not have Vehicle Identification Numbers (VIN) and should be marked with your driver license number. Contact the California Highway Patrol for more information.

Keep copies of all vehicle related documents (such as registration) on file. Record serial numbers of all off-road and unlicensed vehicles.

Carry a copy of your vehicle registration and license number in your wallet or phone, for ease of identification in case of emergency or theft.

Never leave your drivers license, registration, or anything else with your name and address on it accessible in an unattended vehicle.

Do not leave your vehicle title in the car.



BUYING AND SELLING

When selling a car do not let a stranger take it for a test drive alone. If a prospective buyer wants to take the car to a mechanic for an appraisal, volunteer to deliver and pick up the car. Accepting only bank drafts or a cashier's check is wise, free of any smears or possible alterations.

When buying a used car, be sure to verify the seller's name and address, and that the VIN on the registration is the same as on the car. Law enforcement seizes thousands of stolen cars from innocent buyers every year. Call California Highway Patrol to inquire about getting a VIN check.