

Burglary of Motor Vehicle Prevention:



The Dallas Police Department recommends a “layering” approach to reduce burglary or theft of motor vehicles. The “layered approach” involves taking several safety precautions.

- Always lock your vehicle with the windows up.
- Take the keys. Over 25% of all stolen vehicles had the keys left in the vehicle.
- The most effective way to prevent becoming a victim of burglary of a motor vehicle is to make sure anything that might tempt a criminal is secured in the trunk. Do not simply hide property under the seat, because if the item is left inside the car it almost always can be seen from the right angle.
- Don't place your property in the trunk at the time you park and leave the vehicle. Thieves observing this will open your car and pop the trunk to get to your goodies.
- Don't hide spare keys in or under the vehicle. They can be easily found.
- Never leave the registration or insurance cards in the vehicle. Thieves will be able to provide legitimate documents when stopped by the police.
- Always park in well-lighted areas and be familiar with your surroundings. Most vehicles are stolen at night.
- Keep all valuables and packages out of sight. Leaving valuables in plain view provides a tempting target for car thieves.
- Use anti-theft devices. The use of devices such as a steering wheel lock, electronic alarm, an ignition kill-switch, gas cap lock, window VIN etching and a vehicle tracking device all protect your vehicle and deter vehicle theft.
- Don't depend on audio alarms as few people respond to them.
- Register your vehicle in the State of Texas, Department of Public Safety, H.E.A.T., program, (txdps.state.tx.us/). The program will help protect your vehicle while you're asleep between the hours of 1 a.m. and 5 a.m.-- when most vehicle thefts occur.
- Report all burglary offenses to the police department.