

potential for escape. They're looking for homes which appear unoccupied and unprotected; homes without adequate locks and lighting; open or unlocked doors and windows; and home sites which provide easy concealment from neighbors and passing motorists.

Unfortunately, the burglar doesn't need to look around very long to discover "Welcome Burglar" signs unwittingly left around many homes. It is even more unfortunate when you realize that all it takes to make your home less inviting to a burglar is a little common sense and several easy, effective, and inexpensive crime prevention measures. **By following the suggestions in this brochure you can decrease your chances of becoming a burglary victim.**

## Survey your home

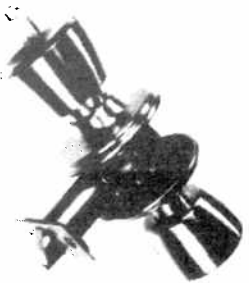
- Look at your home through a burglar's eyes. Does it look like an easy target? Are there obvious security weaknesses?
- Shrubby should not obscure doors and windows. Trim the growth so that a burglar cannot work undetected.
- At night leave a few lights burning outside your home. Lights over doorways and garages, and strategically placed floodlights will make your home less inviting to a burglar.
- Windows and doors should be securely locked. Inadequate locks should be replaced or supplemented.
- Make your home look occupied at all times. Common sense is all that is needed to identify most security weaknesses around your home. To supplement your survey and for more complicated security problems, contact Dallas Police Community Services, 670-4427, for a **free home security survey**. At your request a Crime Prevention Officer will survey your home and give you his security recommendations.



DEADBOLT LOCK

extend at least **ONE INCH** into the door frame to provide adequate security.

Many homes are equipped with spring-latch door locks. Most spring-latch locks can be easily jimmied by even the most inexperienced burglar. Replace or supplement any spring-latch locks with a good deadbolt lock.



SPRING-LATCH LOCK

Other good security locks such as the jimmy-resistant rim lock are available. Ask your Crime Prevention Officer about the best locks for your home.

When you move into a new home, or if you lose your house keys, contact a locksmith to change the tumblers inside the lock. The change can be done quickly and inexpensively, and it makes the old or lost keys useless.

**DON'T FORGET TO LOCK UP.** Even the best locks provide no protection if left unlocked. Securely lock your home even if you plan to be away for only minutes.

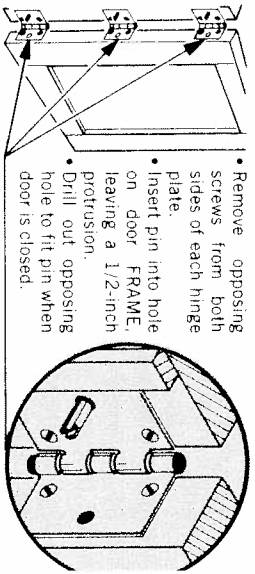
## Secure doors and windows

Wooden exterior doors have either Solid Core or Hollow Core construction. **SOLID CORE DOORS provide the greatest security.** They are best able to withstand attacks by burglars, and are best suited for the installation of good locks.



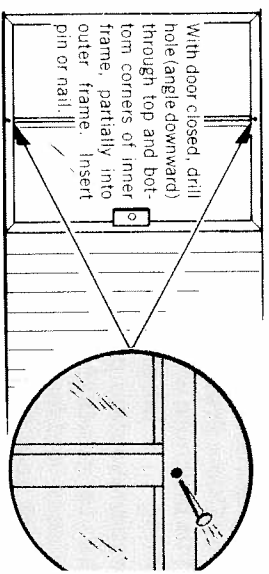
DOUBLE-CYLINDER DEADBOLT LOCK

Doors which swing open to the outside have exposed hinges in easy reach of the burglar. These doors can be secured by the "hinge pinning" technique illustrated.

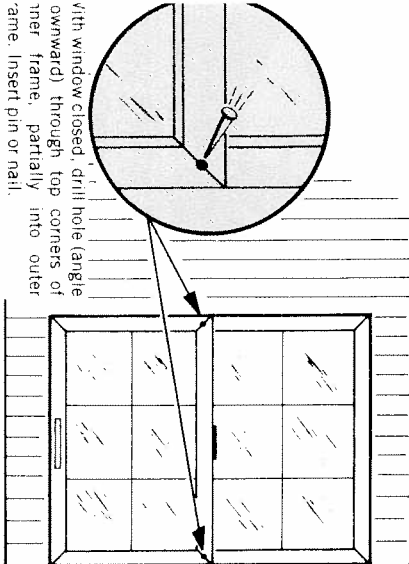


**OPEN GARAGE DOORS ATTRACT BURGLARS.** Make a habit of keeping garage door closed and locked. An open garage door with no car in sight is a clear invitation to a burglar, especially if the garage is used to store such items as bicycles, power mowers, garden tools, and other easily stolen property.

**SLIDING GLASS DOORS** are particularly vulnerable to attacks by burglars. The "pinning" technique illustrated will prevent the lock from being forced or the door from being lifted from the track. Key-operated pins or grips are a preferred method of securing sliding glass doors.



WINDOWS are another common entry point for burglars. Double-hung windows can be easily and inexpensively secured by using the "pinning" technique illustrated.



Good security for windows is provided by key-operated window locks, especially when used as auxiliaries to conventional window locks.

**REMEMBER, an open or unlocked window or door invites burglars.**

**Give your home an occupied look**

Most burglars are looking for unoccupied homes. If your home appears occupied, the burglar will usually look for other more inviting sites. When away from home, leave a radio playing. Always leave a few inner lights burning at night. Automatic timers can be used to vary the on/off pattern of interior lights when you're away.

**When leaving for an extended period,** such as during a vacation, you should take several additional precautions.

Ask a neighbor to keep an eye on your home.

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**WARNING**

All items of value on these premises have been marked for ready identification by Law Enforcement Agencies.

**OPERATION I.D.**  
A Dallas Crime Watch Neighborhood

**This Crime Prevention Information Is From The Dallas Police Department**

**BURGLARY PREVENTION**

**SECURE YOUR HOME**

*"Crime Prevention Pays"*



CITY OF DALLAS