

# Vehicle Prowl Prevention



Vehicle prowls are the theft of property from a motor vehicle. Most are crimes of opportunity through unlocked doors and open windows where victims usually encounter expensive vehicle damage - especially to their windows, doors, and locks. Large parking locations like shopping centers, housing communities, parks, and schools are prime targets for a prowler since multiple vehicles can be hit in a short time span. Also, prowlers know the odds are good that someone will leave a door unlocked, a window down or keys in the ignition.

Unfortunately, vehicle prowls are very common. Luckily, they are preventable. Use these easy and inexpensive tips to reduce your risk of becoming a victim of vehicle prowl:

## Parking & Securing Your Vehicle:

- ◇ Use a garage or secure location whenever possible
- ◇ Park in well-lit areas where your car can be seen
- ◇ Avoid isolated areas. Park near locations frequently used by pedestrians
- ◇ If you hear something suspicious (shattering glass) or see someone looking into vehicles, call 911
- ◇ Roll up the windows and lock all doors
- ◇ Secure the trunk, hatches, bed-mounting tool boxes, and canopies
- ◇ Activate your alarm
- ◇ Install anti-theft devices

## Remove These Items:

- |                            |                      |                          |
|----------------------------|----------------------|--------------------------|
| ◇ Cameras                  | ◇ Garage door opener | ◇ Receipts/statements    |
| ◇ CD player and CD's       | ◇ GPS unit           | ◇ Store bags or packages |
| ◇ Cell phones              | ◇ Jewelry            | ◇ Tools                  |
| ◇ Checkbooks               | ◇ Keys               | ◇ Vehicle title          |
| ◇ Clothing                 | ◇ Laptop             | ◇ Wallets                |
| ◇ Credit/debit, gift cards | ◇ Luggage or bags    |                          |
| ◇ Day planner              | ◇ Mail               |                          |
| ◇ Electronic devices       | ◇ Purses             |                          |

## Anti-Theft Devices:

- ◇ Car alarms are convenient and effective
- ◇ Install switches to interrupt the fuel supply
- ◇ Locking gas caps deter fuel from being siphoned

For Emergencies, Call 911

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**Lock your doors & windows.**  
Prowls are crimes of opportunity!  
**Remove your personal property.**  
"Put your junk in the trunk!"  
**Use anti-theft devices.**

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