



# Home Security Deters Burglars

by Earl Haehl

Your valuables are subject to theft--unless you use American Express Traveler's Checks. That's when you travel. At home you require the super-wireless burglar alarm guaranteed to wake up the neighborhood, turn on lights, and dial the police.

Reported crime is on the rise with burglary up. What can you do to protect yourself? First of all you reinforce your walls, mine the driveway, get a ten-foot electric fence, admit no one without a security badge, and sit where you have a good view of the entire premises with an M-60 machine gun.



Back to reality, there are precautions you can take to assure reasonable security. Probably none will deter a professional who wants something specific. But the average burglar relies on moving in and out quickly. If he or she encounters an impediment that slows down the operation, he or she will look for a simpler operation.



The first step is to get the booklet on Residential Security put out by the police department. This deals with locks and blocking entrance. The burglar in a hurry is deterred. This is based on the single family dwelling, but can be adapted for apartments.

In addition, there are some areas not covered.

**Watchdogs:** The best watchdog is loud, not vicious. An attack dog has a good chance of getting hurt or killed in an encounter with an intruder. Also there is the chance of you getting sued when he jumps the meter reader. A noisy dog attracts attention and starts a chorus of canines throughout the neighborhood.

**Alarms:** A burglar alarm can be effective if it can be heard. Be wary though. If the squirrels trip it when they hit the roof or it jars on, it is useless. Check with the police before buying one.

**Neighbors:** Good neighbors are the best protection. They know when you're away and they

know who's likely to be authorized to enter. They can always get your mail and other junk in the yard. If you don't have good neighbors, snoopies are the next best. They know everything.

**Firearms:** The gun magazines talk about weapons for home defense. I agree for myself, but not for everybody. Nobody should consider using a firearm to confront an intruder without being competent in the use of the weapon and willing to kill if necessary.



Blowing away an armed intruder is self-defense. Blowing away an unarmed intruder is, if not murder, manslaughter. Getting blown away by an intruder is the end.

If this article is your first exposure to home security and you've never had a gun, don't get one--at least for home defense. And if you're considering that nice little .25 cal. automatic at Gibson's forget it.

The weapon for home security is a 12-gauge pump or double barrel shotgun with a magnum load of 00 buckshot.



The shotgun has the size to make any intruder back off, and the power to cut somebody up. Also it is a fairly good hunting weapon which is a better reason to own one than home defense.

A word of caution. Never use a "dummy" or replica. It's suicide.

My recommendations? Minimum security, good neighbors, general caution. If nobody knows you have the Hope diamond, nobody is going to look for it.

Gotta close now, there's a short in the electric fence, a mine just went off in the driveway, and I gotta clean the machine gun.

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- \* solicits and receives large campaign contributions from insurance and oil companies,
- \* equates violations of the Campaign Finance Act with jaywalking,
- \* favors the return of vigilante drug enforcement agents,
- \* wants parole boards abolished,
- \* inspires Vern Miller to "love him like a brother,"

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But if you want an Attorney General who:

- \* recovered over \$2,500,000 in damages for defrauded Kansas consumers,
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Winterization materials include plastic, tacks, lathes, nails, weatherstripping, caulk, caulking gun, and doorsweeps. Interested? For more information call Penn House, a United Fund agency serving the low income community. Our number is 842-0440. Or drop by and visit at 1035 Pennsylvania.

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