

Follow these Suggestions to Help Deter

vehicle BURGLARIES

- Take keys out
- Lock your car
- Park in well-lit areas
- Park in attended lots
- Leave only ignition/door key with lot attendant
- Completely close car windows when parking
- Don't leave valuables in plain view (remove valuables at night; place in trunk during the day if items must be left in vehicle)
- Use your garage
- Lock garage door and vehicle inside
- Replace T-shaped door locks with straight locks
- Engrave expensive accessories
- Use tire/wheel locks
- Install an audible alarm
- Take out removable radios and face plates
- Avoid parking between large vehicles (they provide cover)
- Do not approach your vehicle when a stranger is near it; call 9-1-1- or security for escort.

H.E.A.T. (Help End Auto Theft in Texas)

Texas is the first state to implement a program where vehicle owners sign an agreement allowing Police officers to verify ownership if the vehicle is observed during the HEAT hours of 1 a.m.-5 a.m.



For more information
please contact the
Arlington Police Department
Crime Prevention Unit at
(817) 459-5725

Vehicle BURGLARIES

*City of Arlington statistics
and prevention techniques*



The following statistics list some common items, methods, and locations of vehicle burglaries. You may be a potential victim if you often leave valuable items in your vehicle or park in high risk areas. Reduce your chance of being a victim of vehicle burglary — become familiar with this information, and practice the behavior found on the deterrents list.

STATISTICS for the City of Arlington -

6,488 vehicle burglaries were reported in 2000.
7,368 vehicle burglaries were reported in 2001.
7,379 vehicle burglaries were reported in 2002.
6,033 vehicle burglaries were reported in 2003.
6,485 vehicle burglaries were reported in 2004.
6,804 vehicle burglaries were reported in 2005.
6,681 vehicle burglaries were reported in 2006.

WHAT IS A VEHICLE BURGLARY?

State of Texas Penal Code: 30.04

A. A person commits an offense if, without the effective consent of the owner, he breaks into or enters a vehicle or any part of a vehicle with intent to commit any felony or theft.

B. For the purposes of this section, "enter" means to intrude -

1. Any part of the body; or
2. Any physical object connected with
3. An offense under this section is a Class A Misdemeanor.

ITEMS TO AVOID LEAVING IN VIEW

- ⊗ Phones
- ⊗ Pagers
- ⊗ Cigarettes
- ⊗ Money (loose change)
- ⊗ CD's
- ⊗ Briefcases
- ⊗ Purses
- ⊗ Wallets
- ⊗ Sports equipment (golf and baseball bags)
- ⊗ Removable radios (including removable face plates for radios)
- ⊗ Clothing
- ⊗ Laptop computers
- ⊗ Weapons
- ⊗ Radar detectors
- ⊗ Cassette tapes
- ⊗ Address books
- ⊗ Credit cards
- ⊗ Console visors

Be Aware of BURGLARY

Methods and Locations

ENTRY METHODS:

- ▶ Break glass
- ▶ Left unlocked
- ▶ Pried/Jimmied
- ▶ Windows rolled down or half-rolled down
- ▶ Window vents
- ▶ Sliding windows (mainly trucks)
- ▶ Sunroofs
- ▶ Convertibles

MOST COMMON POINTS OF ENTRY:

- ▶ Side and rear window
- ▶ Side door

HIGH RISK AREAS:

- ▶ Apartments
- ▶ Single family residences
- ▶ Auto parts/dealers/repair shops
- ▶ Shopping centers
- ▶ Restaurants
- ▶ Parks
- ▶ Bars

SUSPICIOUS ACTIONS:

- ▶ Pulling door handles
- ▶ Looking in windows
- ▶ Odd clothing for the time of the year (e.g., long coats or gloves being worn in the summer)
- ▶ Lookouts
- ▶ Nervous looking (looking all around, moving slowly or quickly)
- ▶ Checking for alarms by bumping or hitting the windows or bumpers for sensitivity



Did You Know...

- Vehicle burglaries occur most often on Holidays, such as Christmas or Thanksgiving.
- The hours between 7 p.m. to 6 a.m. account for the majority of vehicle burglaries in apartment complexes and single family residences