



City of Kerrville

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News Release

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Vehicle Burglary Prevention Tips

(June 03) The Kerrville community has seen an increase in thefts from vehicles within the last few weeks. These crimes are spread out in the City of Kerrville. The thefts occur mainly during nighttime hours, and are not limited to any day of the week.

The Kerrville Police Department is doing all we can, but we need the public's help to prevent and stop these crimes.

Most of these crimes occur because people leave car doors unlocked or leave valuables in plain sight. The most likely targets for theft are firearms, purses, wallets, expensive sunglasses, watches, camera gear, MP3 players, GPS systems, satellite radio receivers, cell phones, gym bags, computers, after market stereos, CD's, speakers, power tools, gardening tools, spare change, and mail all of which are portable.

Vehicle burglaries are crimes of opportunity, and carelessness often results in vehicles being broken into.

The Kerrville Police Department suggests taking these simple, but important steps to maintain your car's safety:

- Do not leave valuables in your car. That sounds like common sense, but drivers/passengers do leave items of value in plain view every day. If you leave valuable items visible in your car, your car is automatically a target.
- If you must leave valuable items in your car while out and about, place items out of sight before reaching your destination or move them inconspicuously.
- Once home, unload your valuables immediately. Do not store valuables in your car any longer than necessary, and certainly never overnight.
- Try to park in busy, well-lighted areas, or in your garage (if you have one).
- Raise your windows and lock ALL of your vehicle's doors even if you plan to be gone for only a brief time. Every week, items are stolen from unlocked vehicles where the owner expected to be away for "just a second."
- Set any alarm or anti-theft device. If you have one, use it! Many people believe that car alarms no longer make a difference, but they can be an effective deterrent to an auto burglary.
- Don't think your dark tinted windows will hide your valuables. Thieves often use flashlights to see through tint, and after-market tint is handy to keep all the broken glass in one "sheet" when they break out your window.

WHAT TO DO IF YOUR VEHICLE IS BURGLARIZED:

- As soon as possible, call the police to report the incident.
- Try to minimize contact with your vehicle.
- If you see suspicious activity, call the police immediately.

Residents are encouraged to call the Kerrville Police Department's non-emergency line 830-257-8181 immediately to report all suspicious activity (9-1-1 for EMERGENCY only). We need the community's eyes and ears to assist with catching these criminals.