

## Safety Tips for House Breakings and House Robberies

- ✓ Lock all doors and close window when leaving your home unattended (even if you leave for only a short while)
- ✓ Do not hide keys under the door mat, in flower pots or any other place where the keys could be found by criminals
- ✓ Ensure your windows have burglar guards to prevent access
- ✓ Do not leave notes outside your house announcing your absence from the house
- ✓ Leave a radio on and a light on at night to give an “at home” appearance. Don’t leave an outside lamp burning through the day as this is a clear sign that no one is home
- ✓ Cancel all deliveries (such as newspapers) while you are away If this is not possible asks a trusted neighbor to collect these deliveries.
- ✓ Changes the locks on your house if you keys have been stolen or lost
- ✓ Ask a trusted neighbor to keep an eye on your house while you are away. You should supply this neighbor with a number they can contact you on while you are away
- ✓ When you are at home never listen to music, watch TV or entertain visitors with the doors to you house open or unlocked.
- ✓ Never leave the key in the inside of an outer door which has a glass panel or or window near the door.
- ✓ Don’t keep large amounts of cash at your house
- ✓ Ensure your house’s street number is clearly marked on you fence, wall or gate so that it can be easily seen by any emergency service or police personnel
- ✓ Store emergency contact numbers in your phone and label them clearly to allow fast dialing in an emergency
- ✓ Never give the impression you are at home alone if a stranger telephones you or comes to your door
- ✓ It is your right to see the identification cards of caller who claim to be from government, municipal officials or even SAPS members. Even if they are in uniform ask to see their identity documents/cards and insist on this. If they fail to comply ask them to leave your premises immediately and report the matter to the SAPS
- ✓ Get to know your neighbors
- ✓ If you come home and find a door or window open or signs of forced entry, don’t go into the house. Go to the nearest phone and call the police

**Remember call 10111 in case of an emergency**