




CRIME PREVENTION

WHAT CAN I DO?



To see crime stats in your area visit www.raidsonline

-  www.facebook.com/DurhamCountySheriffsOffice
-  [@DurhamSheriff](https://twitter.com/DurhamSheriff)
-  [@DurhamSheriff](https://www.instagram.com/DurhamSheriff)



Office of the Sheriff
Clarence F. Birkhead, Sheriff

If you suspect someone has broken into your home:

- DO NOT ENTER.
Go immediately to a safe location, like a neighbor's home and call authorities.
- Watch, observe and notate everything
- from a safe location. Responding deputies will search your home and make sure it's safe. Develop the habit of surveying your home as you approach it.
- If you are home alone and someone is prowling outside, make it appear that there are other people home. Call out to someone "Dan, is there something outside?"
- If an intruder has already broken in, retreat and put doors between the two of you. It is a good idea to have a deadbolt on an interior door.
- If you confront a burglar, Get out of their way. Never get between an intruder and an exit. Don't try to stop them. It may cost you your life.
- If you encounter an armed intruder, do everything they say and remain calm.
- If someone should enter your bedroom while you're asleep, pretend to be asleep as long as the intruder does not come near you.
- Memorize a description of the individual(s) and write it down immediately after they leave. Don't depend on your memory.





HOME CHECKS

While you're away, let us help
keep your property safe.



OFFICE OF THE SHERIFF
DURHAM COUNTY

When on Vacation

- Ask the Sheriff's Office to make property checks while you're gone. It's Free! 919-560-0897
- Park a vehicle in the driveway while you're away.
- Use caution posting your location on social media. Wait until you return to share your vacation photos.
- Make your home look occupied while you're away.
- Put timers on lights, TVs and radios. It gives the illusion of an active occupied home.
- Keep blinds closed.
- Ask a friend or neighbor to pick up newspapers and check mail or ask for holds to be placed on deliveries until you return.
- Ask neighbors to keep an eye on your home.



Plan Ahead - Be Proactive

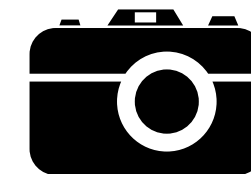


How to Deter Crime:

- Be part of an active community watch.
- Be aware of your surroundings and report suspicious activity.
- Don't let strangers in your home.
- Don't hide a key outside or in your car. Thieves know where to look.
- Install an alarm. If you don't have one, just like with the dog a sign can be a deterrent.
- Window locks and be jimmied, consider adding additional measures like lock pins.
- Always keep your doors and windows locked. (Car doors too!)
- While away and at night keep your blinds closed.
- Even if you don't own a dog, put up a "Beware" sign anyway.
- Make your home visible by cutting excess trees and shrubs in your yard and adding motion lights.
- Install metal exterior doors with deadbolts.
- Don't leave notes for deliver people indicating you aren't home.

Crime Prevention Strategies

- DELAY - have strong doors and windows with reliable locks.
- DETER - Good locks, a dog, security systems, and active community watch
- DETECT - Make a thief work harder and in the view of your neighbors



Take a picture of your valuables and record the serial numbers. Put the records in a safe place where they will not be found or taken. Consider a safe deposit box or give it to a neighbor or family member for safe keeping.



Engrave your valuables with something specific to you. DO NOT use your social security number. or any part of it



Do not store confidential information on your computer. It may be taken with everything in it.





Office of the Sheriff
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**DURHAM COUNTY
SHERIFF'S OFFICE**

*510 S DILLARD ST
P.O. BOX 170
DURHAM, NC 27701*

*MAIN: 919-560-0897
COMMUNICATIONS: 919-560-0900*

WWW.DURHAMSHERRIFF.COM

Every 14.6 seconds a burglary takes place in the U.S. Burglars spend an average of 8 -12 minutes in your home and are most likely to enter between the hours of 10 a.m. and 3 p.m. Deputies patrol and respond to calls 24 hours a day but regrettably, you or someone you know may one day be a victim. Please take the time to see what you can do to help prevent crime.