Research Security Cameras and Alarm Systems

Burglars have reported that they skip homes with security cameras and alarm systems. Find out what security systems are available, and identify which type makes sense for your home.

Click on links to learn more. | safewise.com
The Complete New Home Safety and Security Checklist

Secure Your Doors
- Change the door locks and install a deadbolt.
- Add a strike plate.
- Upgrade to smart locks.
- Boost security with a video doorbell.
- Reinforce sliding glass doors with window bars or dowels in the track.
- Add a door sensor or glass break sensor.

Secure Your Windows
- Add window locks.
- Reinforce glass with window security film.
- Install window or glass break sensors.
- Add window bars.
- Plant prickly bushes under first-floor windows (but be sure to keep them trimmed).

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Light up the Landscape
- Use motion-activated lights.
- Save energy with solar-powered lights.
- Put outdoor lights on a timer.
- Check your landscaping for hiding spots.
- Clear away or prune large trees and shrubs.
- Keep entry points visible from the street.

Set up a Security System
- Get a feel for your neighborhood.
- Get a home safety evaluation of your home.
- Check out your home security options (DIY systems).
- Choose a home security system.

Garage Safety Checklist
- Replace automatic garage door openers clipped to visors, which thieves could use. Instead, opt for a keychain remote or use home automation—and never leave the garage door open.
- Smart garage door opener
- Garage door sensors
- Automatic garage door closers
- Automatic garage door locks
- Secure garage doors with extra locks.
- Use a Garage Shield to cover your garage door's emergency release cord.
- Install motion-activated floodlights.
- Cover windows with interior curtains and blinds. Or consider an adhesive window covering like this Artscape Etched Glass Window Film.
- Protect your service entry and home entry doors with a single-sided deadbolt and reinforced strike plate, using a minimum of 3-inch screws to secure it.

Did you know?
Adding a security system can also increase your home's value in the long run while protecting you from costly burglaries. And home automation can help save you money on lighting, heating, and cooling expenses too.

Extra Home Security Considerations
- DIY installation vs. professional installation
- Customer service and brand reputation
- Smart home capabilities
- Up-front and monthly costs
- Extra smoke and carbon monoxide monitoring

Pro Tip
If you're worried about yourself or another family member getting locked out of the house, leave an extra key with a trusted neighbor. Even if your chosen friend doesn't live very close, it's better to have an emergency key there than nowhere at all.

Notes: