

Thieves have to be fast to avoid being caught. They look for vehicles that will give them easy entry. One of the most effective methods of preventing your vehicle from being stolen is remembering to lock it every time you leave it. Auto theft is big business! New vehicles are not the only targets for car thieves. Older vehicles are also desirable. Thieves often look for cars that can be resold quickly or stripped for parts. In most cases, a vehicle's parts are worth two to three times the value of the vehicle.



Lock your car

Don't leave valuables in view

Never leave your car running while unattended

Want More Information?

<http://www.watchyourcar.org/>

If you would like to learn more about how to protect your car and home from burglary, or to start a



please contact Det. Alejandro Kuga
(908) 769-2971

North Plainfield Police Department

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Detective Alejandro Kuga

Detective Eric Fowler

NORTH PLAINFIELD POLICE DEPARTMENT

*Protecting
with Pride*



*Serving
with Honor*

Vehicle Theft and Burglary Prevention

Best Practices

THEFT STATISTICS

- Nearly 13% of stolen vehicles had their keys left in them.
- Approximately 50% of stolen vehicles were left unlocked.



COMMON SENSE IS YOUR BEST DEFENSE

Lock your car.
Take your keys.
Park in well-lit areas.
If you park in an attended lot and have to leave your key with an attendant, leave only the ignition and door key.
Never leave your car running unattended. Vehicles are commonly stolen at ATMs, convenience stores, etc.
Completely close all car windows when parked.

Don't leave valuables in plain view.
Always use your emergency brake when parked.

If you have a garage, use it.
When parked in a garage, lock the garage door as well as your vehicle.

Never leave the registration or title in your car.

Replace "T-shaped" door locks with straight locks.

Stolen cars or parts are more easily traced when Vehicle Identification Numbers (VIN) have been etched on car windows and major parts.

Engrave expensive accessories with a personal identification number.

Drop business cards, address labels, or other identification inside vehicle doors.

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INVESTING IN VEHICLE PROTECTION

Ignition kill switches* prevent the engine from starting.
Fuel kill switches* halt the fuel supply.
Visible steering wheel locks prevent the steering wheel from being turned.
Floorboard locks disable the gas or brake pedal to prevent the use of these pedals.
Gearshift locks disable shifting of the transmission.
Tire or wheel locks prevent the vehicle from moving.

* See your local garage or accessory store about installation.

ELECTRONIC SECURITY SYSTEMS

Audio alarms* emit loud warning sounds when the doors, hood, or trunk are opened.

Vehicle tracking systems*, like the Lo-Jack system, install a transmitter in your vehicle, which is activated when you report your car stolen.

Police vehicles with the Lo-Jack receiver can track the location of your vehicle for recovery.

* See your local garage or accessory store about installation.