

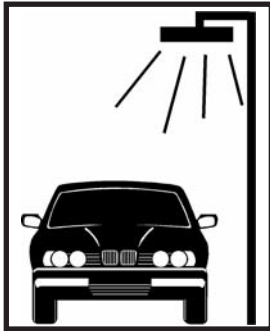
Suggestions to Help Deter Vehicle Burglaries

- Take keys out
- Lock your car
- Park in well-lit areas
- Park in attended lots
- Leave only ignition/door key with lot attendant
- Completely close car windows when parking
- Don't leave valuables in plain view
(remove valuables at night; place in trunk during the day if items must be left in vehicle)



- Use your garage
- Lock garage door and vehicle inside

- Replace T-shaped door locks with straight locks
- Engrave expensive accessories
- Use tire/wheel locks
- Install an audible alarm



- Take out removable radios and face plates
- Avoid parking between large vehicles
(they provide cover)
- Do not approach your vehicle when a stranger is near it; call 9-1-1 or security for escort



For more information please contact the
Plano Police Department

– **Crime Prevention Unit** –

at

972-941-2431



www.planopolice.org



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Vehicle Burglaries

Presented by:

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The following are some common items, methods, and locations of vehicle burglaries. You could be a victim if you leave valuables in your vehicle or park in high risk areas. Reduce your chance of being a victim of vehicle burglary - become familiar with this information and follow the suggestions to help deter vehicle burglaries.

Each year more than 2000 vehicle burglaries are reported to the Plano Police Department.

Many vehicle burglaries are never reported to police.

What is a Vehicle Burglary?

State of Texas Penal Code: 30.04

A person commits an offense if, without the effective consent of the owner, he breaks into or enters a vehicle or any part of a vehicle with intent to commit any felony or theft.

For the purposes of this section, "enter" means to intrude:

1. Any part of the body; or
2. Any physical object connected with the body.
3. An offense under this section is a Class A Misdemeanor.



Did you Know?

Vehicle burglaries often occur during holidays such as Christmas or Thanksgiving. The hours between 7 pm and 6 am account for the majority of vehicle burglaries in apartment complexes and single family residences.



Items to Avoid Leaving in the Vehicle

- Phones
- Pagers
- Cigarettes
- Money (loose change)
- CD's



- Briefcases
- Purses
- Wallets
- Radar detectors
- Sports equipment (golf and baseball bags)
- Removable radios (including removable face plates for radios)



- Clothing

- Laptop computers
- Weapons
- Cassette tapes
- Address books
- Credit cards
- Console visors



Be Aware of Burglary Methods and Locations

Entry Methods:

- Break glass
- Left unlocked
- Pried/Jimmied
- Window vents
- Sunroofs
- Convertibles
- Windows rolled down or half-rolled down
- Sliding windows (mainly trucks)



Most Common Points Of Entry:

- Side and rear window
- Side door

High Risk Areas:

- Apartments
- Shopping centers
- Restaurants
- Bars
- Parks
- Single family residence
- Auto parts/dealers/repair shops



Suspicious Actions:

- Pulling door handles
- Lookouts
- Looking in windows
- Odd clothing for the time of the year (e.g., long coats or gloves being worn in the summer moving slowly or quickly)
- Checking for alarms by bumping or hitting the windows or bumpers for sensitivity