

Five Ways to Stop a Thief in Their Tracks and Keep Your Jewelry Safe



The last thing you want is for that special piece of jewelry to “disappear” in a home burglary.

According to the FBI, nearly 20% of homes are burglarized each year. Since jewelry is small and easy to stash, it is also one of the easiest things to steal from a home.

Make sure you protect your jewelry (and other valuable possessions) from home burglars.

No. 1 Understand how and when burglars get in

- In 2017, a property burglary occurred every 22.6 seconds.
- The average burglary lasted only 8 minutes.
- 65% of residential break-ins occur during the day – typically between 9 a.m. and 3 p.m.
- 36% of break-ins occur because a door was left open or unlocked.
- 61% of window break-ins include breaking glass.



No. 2: Choose the Right Safe

Choose a safe that is:

- Purchased from a reputable manufacturer.
- Fire resistant for at least one hour under flash point (1,700 degrees F).
- Tool resistant for at least 30 minutes. The safe's walls and door should be constructed of thick, solid steel to protect against both hand and power tools.
- Do not rely on a Residential Security Container rating; those safes are typically constructed of thin 10- or 12-gauge sheet metal that is only designed to withstand an attack with non-powered hand tools for five minutes.
- Consider a technologically advanced in-home safe with biometric locks that read fingerprints or irises, a relocking device that activates if the safe is attacked, or a safe with a silent signal alert code to notify the alarm company if you're forced to open the safe against your will.
- Professionally install the safe. A professional installer will be able to identify an optimum location and method to secure the safe. Select a convenient location to ensure that the safe will be used.



No. 3: Install a Monitored Alarm System

- Consider a multi-layered security approach, with contacts on perimeter doors and windows, interior motion sensors throughout, glass-break sensors, and cellular or radio backup to ensure signal continuity between the components and your alarm-monitoring company in the event of a telephone or digital voice line outage or disconnection.
- Install an alarm on the safe and post security cameras in the area.
- Alarm the safe on its own zone to ensure that it remains active 24/7, even when the perimeter alarm is deactivated.
- Install alarms in the room where the safe is located to make sure the threat is detected before the safe is tested. If the safe is in a closet, have the alarm company place a motion detector in the closet and/or alarm the closet door.
- Install a smoke detector in the vicinity of the safe.
- Restrict access to the safe, and conduct background checks on employees and workers who will be in your home.



No 4: Stay Up to Date on Coverage

- Alert your agent when you purchase a new item.
- Regularly review your policy to ensure you have adequate coverage for pieces which may appreciate in value.
- Maintain an inventory of the collection with detailed item descriptions, location, and associated documentation including invoices, appraisals, and certificates.

No 5: Take Advantage of CCIG's Preventive Measures

CCIG looks for ways to do more for our clients, including preventing losses (such as theft) from happening in the first place. Our jewelry specialists can help you decide how to best protect your jewelry, and can refer you to best-in-class jewelers, safe companies, appraisers, auction houses, and other jewelry vendors throughout the world.



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