

## Practical tips for securing your home

Everyone wants to know that their family and property is safe. Fortunately, securing your home need not be a complicated or expensive process. There are many simple and practical ways to make your property more secure.



- Ensure access points are visible from the street. Trim hedges and trees to reduce hiding spots and consider a low front fence.
- If you are leaving the house at night leave a light on inside and out.
- Don't leave a key underneath the doormat or in an easily accessible place.

- Well placed sensor lights are an effective method of deterring intruders as they don't need to be on all the time but are activated by movement. Lighting should be mounted well out of reach of tampering and, if possible, placed on all sides of your home.
- Don't leave ladders or wheelie bins outside for extended periods as they can be used to gain entry to your home. Place them in a garage or shed if possible. Don't forget to also lock away any tools that may help an intruder enter your home.
- External doors and windows are the most obvious target for intruders. A door needs to withstand brute force, so they need to be of solid-core construction and fitted with a deadlock mechanism. You may also want to consider a three point locking system, consisting of a lock at the top and the bottom of the door. Don't forget to keep a key for your deadlock in a convenient location – you don't want your security to compromise fire safety.
- Security doors are a great option if you like to leave your door open during summer. Look for a heavy duty mesh, three fixed hinges and a closely fitted frame that meets Australian Standards.
- Monitored alarm systems are recognised as being a major deterrent for intruders. You may wish to consider detection sensors in the home, a control panel, keypad, video intercom and a warning device. Ensure your alarm system is monitored by an ASIAL Certified Monitoring Centre.

***Remember, when it comes to protecting your family and property, don't take any chances. Always use a licensed security professional and make sure they are an ASIAL member.***

***To find an ASIAL member in your local area visit [www.asial.com.au](http://www.asial.com.au).***



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