

Protect your vehicle and your belongings!

LOCK UP

- An unlocked car is an open invitation to a car thief. Lock up when you leave your car and take your keys and valuables with you.
- Be sure to also keep your trunk or tailgate and/or utility boxes locked.
- Close all your windows. Professional thieves have tools they can use to unlock your car through even the smallest window crack.
- When you park, remove cell phones, stereo faces, and all other valuable possessions. Even visible charging cords can elicit interest in your vehicle.
- Lock your car even on quick stops.



USE ANTI THEFT DEVICES

Consider the purchase and installation of security devices such as:

- Locking gas cap
- Locking devices for batteries, wheels, decks, etc...
- Alarm devices to activate a siren, horn, or lights to frighten away would be thieves.
- Devices that attach to steering wheels or the brake pedal.
- GPS tracking devices or systems.

PARK CAREFULLY

- Do not leave your car in unattended public parking lots for an extended period of time.
- If possible, park your car in a lot where you do not need to leave your keys.
- If parking with an attendant/valet, leave only the ignition key.
- Never attach a key ring with personal information (ie. a tag with your name or address).
- Park in a well lit area.
- Be cognizant of someone watching you putting items in your car, including the trunk. It takes less than 30 seconds to break a car window and pop the trunk. If you need to do so, think about moving your vehicle to a new parking spot.

PROACTIVE MEASURES

- If leaving your car parked outside for a period of time while away, remove garage door openers. (*Make sure to lock interior garage doors)
- Don't park your vehicle up against something that can act as "cover" to a bad guy, ie. a large bush or concrete wall or up against large vehicles if you can avoid it.
- Keep your car clean. A clean, empty car does not appeal to a bad guy. This includes phone charging cords.

CARJACKING

This is a violent, random form of auto theft. Protect yourself by:

- Keep your doors locked
- Keep car and house keys on separate key rings
- When stopped in traffic, always leave a cars length of distance between you and the car in front of you
- If threatened, give up the vehicle. It's not worth your life!

YOUR POLICE DEPARTMENT AND ITS MEMBERS ARE HERE TO SERVE EVERYONE IN OUR COMMUNITY. IT IS OUR GOAL TO MAKE OUR NEIGHBORHOODS SAFER.

ONLINE REPORTING

Online reporting is available to victims of certain crimes. Reports can be made online when the loss is under \$5,000, the suspect is unknown, and there is no need for evidence processing.

Examples Include:

- Vandalism
- Harassing Phone Calls
- Theft from a vehicle (not burglary)

Online reporting allows you to file a police report at a time convenient to you. A free copy of the final report will be emailed back to you. This is available 24/7.

All reports will be reviewed and you may be contacted for follow-up.

To file, visit:
www.sanmateopolice.org



DO YOUR PART TO MAKE OUR NEIGHBORHOODS SAFER

We count on our community members to be our "eyes and ears." Report ANY suspicious activity to SMPD right away via 911, or (650)522-7700. You may also contact us anonymously by voicemail at (650)522-7676 or text message to (650)262-3473.

JOIN NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH

If a Neighborhood Watch does not exist on your block, you can start one with help from SMPD. For additional information about the City of San Mateo Neighborhood Watch Program, call us at (650)522-7791 or email us at neighborhoodwatch@cityofsanmateo.org.

CITY OF SAN MATEO

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www.cityofsanmateo.org

CITY OF SAN MATEO

SAN MATEO POLICE
DEPARTMENT



Vehicle Security:

Tips to keep you
and your vehicle
safe.

(650)522-7700
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