



**SHIELD<sup>®</sup>** SECURITY SYSTEMS

*You're Secure Behind Our Shield*

### Home Security Audit Checklist

Always having a plan for the security of your home is a smart idea. Here is a list of yes/ no questions that you can use to make sure that your home is as secure as possible.

#### **The Exterior**

- Do trees and shrubbery obscure your doors and windows?
- Do shrubbery or other structures provide a place where an intruder could hide?
- Does your home residence appearance give the impression that no one is home?
- Are storage sheds or buildings unlocked?
- Is the garage door unlocked or open?
- Do you have a privacy fence?
- Are there basement windows or an exterior basement door which is unlocked or easily opened?
- Are there ground floor windows which are unlocked, have a broken pane of glass or easily opened?
- Are there any second floor windows that are unlocked?
- Are there openings in your home such as skylights?
- Are there entrances to your home that are unlighted at night?
- Are there any other areas around your home that could provide concealment for an intruder?
- Are there cars or other vehicles left outside unlocked or have keys in the ignition?
- Are vehicles parked in poorly lighted areas?

#### **The Structure**

- Do you have deadbolts on locks on all exterior doors?
- Are the hinges to the door on the inside so the pins can't be taken out?
- Can the exterior door frames withstand excessive force?
- Is there a peephole in all doors where visitors are admitted?
- Has the sliding glass door been modified to prevent it being moved or lifted off its track?
- Are the vertical opening windows secured with a window grille or grate?
- Are casement windows securely locked?
- Are basement windows secured with a second lock or covered with a grate or grille?
- Is the garage door locked and closed?

## The Interior

- Do you check the doors and windows before you leave home
- Do you keep the doors and windows locked while you are home?
- Do you check the windows/doors at least once a day while you are home?
- When you are away do you leave your blinds opened?
- When away from home do you leave the radio on to a talk show station?
- When your home is unoccupied in the evening hours do you leave some lights on?
- When you answer the door, do you look out the peephole first?
- When you talk to strangers, do you avoid giving them too much information?
- If you do have an alarm system do you make sure that it is armed every time you are away?
- If you have firearms, are they unloaded and locked safely away?

## The Contents

- Do you have a current inventory of the contents of your home?
- Do you have a safety deposit box?
- Do you have insurance that will cover the cost of replacing stolen or destroyed items?

There is nothing more dangerous than to think a burglary couldn't happen to you, only to find out that your family and home were unprotected, *AFTER* a burglary has occurred. That's too late! Unfortunately, today many people feel that "it could never happen to me" invincibility. Yet, every 15 seconds a robbery occurs.

At SHIELD®, we protect and secure families, homes and businesses from burglaries, fires, smoke, flooding and various environmental emergencies by using state of the art electronics and 24/7 central station monitoring. We offer additional peace-of-mind by providing immediate access to medical care with a simple push of a button.

Our mission is to protect people and places through education, sharing our practical experience and providing exceptional electronic security solutions in a world that doesn't always feel so secure. To learn more about preventing a burglary in your home, contact SHIELD Security Systems at 1-800-4SHIELD (1-800-474-4353).