

## Identifying your property

Thieves generally don't like stealing property that is clearly identified. Marked property is harder to dispose of.

### Make sure you:

- ▶ engrave your electrical equipment and other property with your driver's licence number, prefixed by 'A' for ACT. Engraving machines are available from your local Neighbourhood Watch Association;
- ▶ keep photographic records of all your property that can't be engraved, especially jewellery and works of art; and
- ▶ store valuation certificates in a safe place.

Also, keep accurate records of what you own. It will give police a better chance of locating your property.

## What should you do if you are burgled?

If you suspect that you have been burgled, call police immediately. If you have arrived home alone, ask a neighbour to come in to the house with you and wait until the police arrive. If you suspect the thieves are still inside your house, do not enter the premises.

If you have entered your home and are waiting for police to arrive, compile a list of what you think is missing. Include brand names, model numbers, serial numbers, accurate descriptions and any engraving details. Remember not to touch anything. It is important the police see your home exactly as it was left so they can obtain valuable evidence.

## Need help?

If you require more information on home safety you can contact CLASP on **6282 3777** or Neighbourhood Watch on **6245 7450** or go to [www.nhwact.asn.au](http://www.nhwact.asn.au)

For police assistance in the ACT you can call police 24 hours, seven days a week on **131 444** or go to a police station nearest you.

If it is a life threatening situation you can call the emergency number on **000** free call.

## ACT Police Stations

### Canberra City

London Circuit  
Canberra City ACT 2601  
6245 7208

### Gungahlin

(open until 11.00pm,  
seven days)  
Gozzard Street  
Gungahlin ACT 2912  
6241 7755

### Woden

Bradley Street  
Phillip ACT 2606  
6269 2777

### Belconnen

Lathlain Street  
Belconnen ACT 2617  
6256 1777

### Tuggeranong

Cnr Soward Way and  
Anketell Street  
Greenway ACT 2900  
6293 7777

[www.afp.gov.au](http://www.afp.gov.au)



**Good home security is more than just fitting deadlocks or alarms. Home burglary is a common crime here in the ACT, so it is important to remember there are a number of precautions you can take to protect your property.**

### Keys

- ▶ Never leave spare keys outside your home. Thieves know all the usual hiding places including under door mats and pot plants.
- ▶ Don't have personal details such as your name, address and telephone number on your keys.
- ▶ Give a duplicate set of keys to a trusted friend, relative or neighbour.
- ▶ If you lose your keys or move into a new home make sure you change the locks.
- ▶ If someone contacts you saying they have found your keys get them to drop them off at the nearest police station.

### Windows

- ▶ Install key operated locks on all windows making sure they can all be opened with a master key.
- ▶ Use laminated glass or shatter resistant window film to help prevent windows being broken.

### Doors

- ▶ Install quality deadlocks on all your external doors.
- ▶ Check your doors are correctly fitted and working properly.
- ▶ Check door frames are secure.
- ▶ Install a peephole in your front door and always check the identification of strangers.
- ▶ Secure garage doors with deadlocks or strong padlocks.

### Yards

- ▶ Ensure trees and shrubs are trimmed, especially those close to your house that could be climbed to gain access to your property.
- ▶ Make sure you keep all gates locked. The rear and sides of homes are often targeted by thieves.
- ▶ Always lock tools, ladders and garden equipment away as these items can be used by thieves to gain entry to your home.
- ▶ Install movement activated security lights at the front and back of your home.

### Alarms

- ▶ Visible alarm equipment can be an effective deterrent to thieves.
- ▶ The alarm system you choose should cover all external doors and windows.

### Other general security tips for your home

- ▶ Your house number should be clearly visible from the street in case of an emergency.
- ▶ Keep your front door locked when you are at the back of the house.
- ▶ Do not leave messages on the front door. It lets people know you are not home.
- ▶ Avoid having parcels left on the door step.
- ▶ If you have to have something delivered while you are out have a neighbour collect it.
- ▶ When out, leave a radio or television on or a light in the evening to give the impression you are home.
- ▶ Keep cash and valuables out of sight.

