



Your Home Security Assessmentwith Solutions

- **Date of Assessment:**
- **Time of Assessment:**
- **Assessed By:**

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“An ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure”

Benjamin Franklin

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What is the purpose of this Assessment?

The purpose of this Home Security Assessment is to help you, to ask the right questions and provide practical solutions that will help improve your security while at home or while away.

The Assessment is a working document that may be used alone or in conjunction with a physical security assessment by a Certified Security Risk Assessor.

The completed document should be considered confidential and held securely under the terms of the Data Protection Act.

Please complete the full Assessment to the best of your knowledge. In some cases, certain sections may not apply; these should be marked as not applicable. Additionally, some areas may require in-depth technical knowledge and should be answered only if enough information is available to do so.

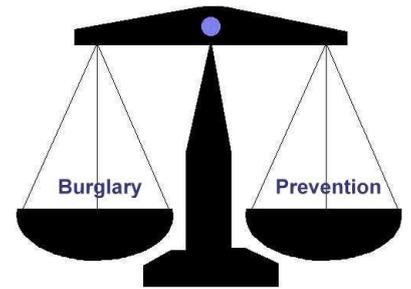
To be more effective, security measures and procedures need to be discussed with other members of your family.



Why complete a Home Security Risk Assessment?

We all need to protect our homes, families & possessions from the threat of burglary. Most burglaries are committed by “**opportunist thieves**”, so with a few simple measures, homeowners can help protect their home from being targeted.

The question we need to ask ourselves:
“Who should I contact to get the best advice on burglary prevention?”



There are numerous sources of conflicting advice and information on burglary prevention available to homeowners, sometimes provided by individuals or companies with limited knowledge and experience of burglary prevention.

It is therefore understandable that many people either fail to appreciate the importance of such measures or feel overwhelmed by the variety and technical content of advice and information available.

Don't ask “why me” ask “why here?”

For professional and free advice please contact:

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Home Security Assessment Checklist

Property Type – Please tick as appropriate

-  Terrace
-  Semi Detached
-  Detached
-  Bungalow
-  Apartment
-  Penthouse
-  Studio
-  Holiday home
-  Country House
-  End of Terrace
-  Cottage
-  Duplex
-  Townhouse
-  Dormer
-  Period House
-  Mews
-  Farm
-  Site



Type of Assessment

- Self Assessment

Complete each question in your Home Security Assessment. If you answer 'No' to any question, we suggest you review the suggested solutions in this booklet. You can also contact your local Garda Crime Prevention Officer for more information or assistance. www.garda.ie

Although highly desirable, subjects marked “yes” on this checklist does not guarantee safety. Subjects marked “no” suggest that modifications should be considered.

No.	Question	Yes	No	N/A	Comment
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Door Number

1	Is your door number clearly visible from the road?				
2	Is your door number visible at night?				

Fences and Gates

3	Are perimeter fences in good condition?				
4	Are fences constructed of solid/sound materials?				
5	Can gates be secured?				

Landscaping

6	Can people see your home clearly from the road?				
7	Could a person be hiding in your front or back garden? i.e. behind a hedge or shed				
8	Is the doorway concealed from the street or neighbours view e.g. by a porch, fence or landscaping?				

Security Lighting

9	Is there security lighting installed?				
10	Is the security lighting in good working order?				
11	Are entry and exit points adequately lit?				
12	Are there timers on the lights?				

No.	Question	Yes	No	N/A	Comment
-----	----------	-----	----	-----	---------

Letterbox and Outside ESB Box

13	Is the letterbox fitted with an appropriate deflector?				
14	Is the ESB Box fitted with an internal on/off lock?				

Garage and Garden Shed

15	Can the Garage be locked?				
16	Has the Garage Door an additional lock?				
17	Is the garden shed locked?				
18	Is the garden shed anchored to the ground?				
19	Are tools, gardening equipment, ladder's etc, locked away when not in use?				
20	Are windows within the garage fitted with window locks?				

Doors / Main entrance or side

21	Is the main door itself constructed of Aluminium, uPVC or Timber?				
22	Is the door frame strong and tight enough to prevent forced entry?				
23	Is the door secured by a Top Rim Lock, Multi point lock and/or deadbolt?				
24	Is the door kept locked at all times?				
25	Is the door fitted with an adequate viewer or intercom device?				

No.	Question	Yes	No	N/A	Comments
26	Has your door got glass side panels, which can be used to view visitors if a viewer or intercom is missing?				
27	Are all visitors visually identified before unlocking and opening the door?				
28	Is the exterior or front entrance lit with energy rated bulb?				
29	Are keys removed from locks when you're away?				
30	Is a Porch Door installed?				
31	Are sliding doors fitted with a suitable lock?				
32	Is there a secure Door Chain / Ring fitted?				
33	Are landscaping and entryways designed and maintained to prohibit concealment of the front door?				
34	Is there an additional lock on your French Double Doors?				
35	Are the door cylinder locks snap/drill and fire resistant?				

Ground Floor Windows

36	Are all of the windows fitted with adequate and operational locks?				
37	Are your window glass panes internally or externally beaded?				

No.	Question	Yes	No	N/A	Comment
38	Are the exterior areas of windows free from concealing structures and landscaping?				
39	Is the exterior window area's adequately lit?				
40	Are unused windows permanently closed & secured?				
41	Are windows able to be locked in a partially open position?				
42	Are skylights suitably secured?				

Upper Floor Windows

43	Are upper floor windows that open onto the porch or garage roof, or the roofs of adjacent buildings, fitted with security hardware?				
44	Are trees and shrubbery kept trimmed back from the upper floor windows, to permit good visibility around the house?				
45	Are ladders stored out of sight in a secure location?				

Property Identification

46	Have you recorded details of your household items?				
47	Is your property security marked or labelled for easy identification?				

No.	Question	Yes	No	N/A	Comment
48	Is your property photographed for easy identification?				
49	Do you have adequate insurance in place?				
50	Are your property list & photographs adequately secured?				

Intruder Alarm Systems/CCTV

51	Is there an intruder / CCTV system installed?				
52	Are the intruder systems monitored?				
53	Are the intruder systems used?				
54	Is the garage covered by the intruder alarm system?				
55	Is the intruder alarm system tested regularly?				
56	Were the systems installed by PSA licenced installer?				



Suggested Solutions

Door Number

- Ideally your door number should be prominently displayed at the front of your home to enable the emergency services and taxi's etc., to locate you easily
- The ideal height of the door number should be 120mm and be visible at night

Fences & Gates

- Fences can be used to define the property boundaries and restrict access to the property
- Fences and gates should be constructed to meet your needs and requirements
- Front fences should be open-style construction to increase visibility onto the property
- Consider the use of self-closing gates and locks.
- Fences and gates should be regularly maintained to maximise their effectiveness and ensure their good working order (Recommended height 1.1 metres)

Landscaping

- Trees and shrubs should be trimmed to reduce hiding places and increase visibility to and from the road (Recommended height 1.1 metres).
- Overhanging branches should be trimmed to prevent people using them to access other parts of the property, e.g. using a tree to get to an upper level of the house

Security Lighting. (See products 7: Page 16)

- Robotic Security lighting should be installed around the perimeter of the property to provide more effective illumination during the hours of darkness. Security Lighting should have a way to warn you during daylight hours.



- Security lighting should be checked and maintained in good working order
- Additional security lighting should be installed, particularly over entry/exit points
- Consider using timers to turn lights on/off when you are not at home



Letterbox and Outside ESB Box

- The letterbox should be fitted with a suitable deflector to restrict access by tools
- Consider having an outside independent post box fitted to the wall
- Ensure your external ESB box has an independent lock approved by the Electricity Supply Board of Ireland (ESB)

Garage & Garden Shed

- The Garage should be locked to restrict access and theft
- Roller, tilt and panel-lift doors can be secured with additional locks in the form of hasp, staple or padlocks
- Garden Sheds should be securely anchored to the ground to prevent tilting
- The garden shed should also be fitted with a suitable lock again to restrict access and theft (If your shed has nothing of value or tools consider leaving it unlocked)
- Windows within garages and garden sheds should also be fitted with quality locks to restrict access. (Consider having your alarm connected to your shed, this can be done by a wireless device)
- Garden tools, equipment and ladders should be locked away when not in use to prevent them being used to gain access to your home
- Make a Burglar's life difficult – keep your gardening tools in a shed or out of sight

Doors

When adding security to any door in your home, you must remember that you also need to have easy access for yourself and family in case of emergency.

New External Door Purchases. (See product 8: Page 16)

New external doors and frames should be made of solid construction to EN1627:2011 and/or Pas24 Security Rating.



Existing External Doors

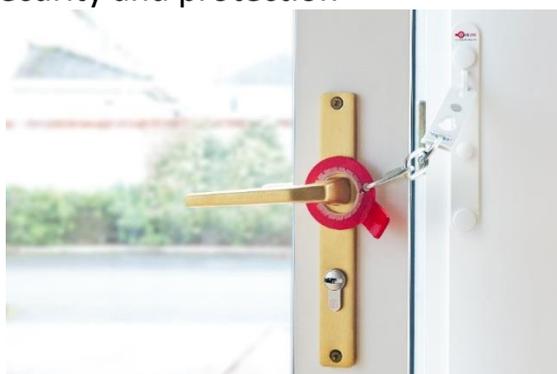
Timber Doors

- The frame is the weakest point of the door set, there is a wide variety of additional hardware available to strengthen the frames along with the hinges. The door itself can have a two, four or six point locking mechanism which transfers the pressure from the frame to the floor and reveals.
- A secondary deadbolt is recommended for all doors (not a latch).

uPVC Doors.(See products 4 & 5 & 6 & 9 & Page 16)

- uPVC Doors come in a variety of thickness and quality. Normally they are fitted with a three, five up to an eight point locking system but is only controlled by a single Euro Profile Cylinder.
- It is recommended to have a secondary deadbolt to exterior doors.
- It is common practise to change the existing Euro Profile Cylinder to the new Dimple Key Euro Profile Cylinder which is drill, snap, bump and most importantly fire resistant.

*It is preferable to add a Deadbolt to your door before changing a cylinder to any External Door for added security and protection



Internal Doors

- During the day while your home is vacant leave all internal doors open, if an intruder looks through the windows you are showing you have nothing to hide
- In reverse when going to bed ensure to lock internal doors leaving the key in them as you head to bed. If an intruder gets into a particular room it confines them there and gives your electronic security systems time to activate

Windows. *(See products 1, 2 & 3 Page 16)*

- The security of any operational window can be enhanced with a secondary lock or barrier to compliment the manufacturer's locking system
- Window panes which are externally beaded need to be locked in from the inside using a No Go Glass Pane Lock
- Wooden windows can be pinned using a drill and security screws
- Newer uPVC replacement windows may have security shoot bolts that prevent the window from been prised open
- Thorny bushes or prickly shrubs are ideal plantings below window sills.
- If adding additional security to any window which is the fire escape window ensure the window restrictor is keyless

Property Identification

- Record descriptions/models/serial numbers of property for easy identification
- Back up property lists from your computer in case the computer is lost or stolen
- Engrave or attach your property with a traceable number or sticky label.
- Take a photograph on your phone and record the details of unique items to aid in their recovery if stolen
- Check that you have adequate levels of insurance for the replacement of property
- Your property list, photographs and other documentation should be secured safely, e.g. in a safe or in a safety deposit box
- For items that cannot be engraved, consider marking them with an- ultra-violet pen. This marking is only visible under an- ultra-violet (blue) light

Telephones / Mobiles

- Pre-program the speed dial function on your phone with the emergency number 999 or also for mobiles 112
- Ensure your mobile is always fully charged
- Place a sticker on your telephone with the emergency number and local Garda Station
- Include an ICE (In Case of Emergency) number in your mobile phone

Intruder Alarm Systems/CCTV

- A burglar alarm will not prevent a burglary, it is an additional security layer. Be mindful of other hardware options to protect your home. Consider installing an alarm if your home is empty most of the day or if required by your insurance company

Safes

- For added security for valuables such as jewellery, cash and documents, consider installing a safe
- A safe must be selected based upon its intended function.
- The location of the safe should be easy for you to access and difficult for a burglar to find. Never have a safe located in a bedroom or under the stairs
- The safe should be well concealed, fixed to the floor or embedded in foundations. This can save your personal possessions from theft
- A safe with a locking mechanism by code is a preferable purchase
- The minimum security standard when purchasing a safe, Standard S2, fire rating depending on the contents
- Talk to your insurance company about their requirements
- The safe should be installed to the manufacturer's specifications



Certified with grade S2 certification from ICIM Institute in accordance with standard UNI EN 14450



New Security Hardware Options

Window Security Hardware Selection



1. NoGo Window
Pane Lock



2. Keyless Window
Restrictor



3. Window/Door
Sash Jammer

Door Security Hardware Selection



4. Deadbolt Lock



5. Euro Profile
Security Cylinder



6. Secure Door Chain / Ring

Security Hardware Selection



7. Tracking Security Light with alarm



8 . Secure Door
EN1627/2011
certification



9. French Door Patlock

Conclusion

We hope this home security assessment has proven to be a useful tool for you to assess your home's physical security.

However, it does not guarantee that all risks have been identified, or that the area assessed will be free from burglary if its recommendations are followed.

Before disclosing your personal and security information check out the credentials of the individual or company that you consider employing.

Remember when looking at your home security, most burglaries are random.

There are normally only three ways into your home:

- 1. Through the door.**
 - 2. Through the window.**
- or
- 3. You let them in by opening your door and they push pass.**

Make your home secure and safe. BUT remember you may have to get out in a hurry – have a fire escape plan.

Whatever you do about your home security it must be a positive for you and a negative for the burglar. Buying you security hardware (apart from intruder alarms, which require regular maintenance) is a one-off cost that will pay dividends for as long as you live in that home.



THE SECURITY
INSTITUTE
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If you have any questions about any of the recommendations or if you would like to discuss your security concerns please do not hesitate to give us a call or schedule a Home Security Risk Assessment

Contact us on 01 8249605

www.stoptheburglar.ie



Acknowledgements

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Reference Manual:

Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design, Third Edition.

Crowe and Fennelly 2013

If you have any questions, please call Peter Murray:
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Visit our website to see a range of security hardware, security lighting and
Secure Doors for your home.

www.stoptheburglar.ie

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Your Notes: