



BURGLARY

Burglary is often a crime of opportunity.

A burglar will select his target because it offers him the best opportunity to carry out his crime undetected and with the fewest number of obstacles in his way. The more time and effort a burglar must take to gain entry or remove merchandise, the less likely they are to select that business as a target.

WE SUGGEST A SECURITY SURVEY!

The Renton Police Department offers a free security survey to Renton businesses.

A crime prevention specialist will come to your business to review the following to enhance the security of your business.

- » Locks
- » Lighting
- » Alarm System
- » Windows
- » Landscaping

To schedule a security survey, please call the Communications & Engagement Coordinator at **425-430-7520**.



Renton Police Business Watch Facebook Group

Local business owners in Renton can join the Renton Police Business Watch Group on Facebook for crime prevention tips and to network with other local businesses in Renton. It's easy to join, just search for "Renton Police Business Watch" on Facebook and submit a request.

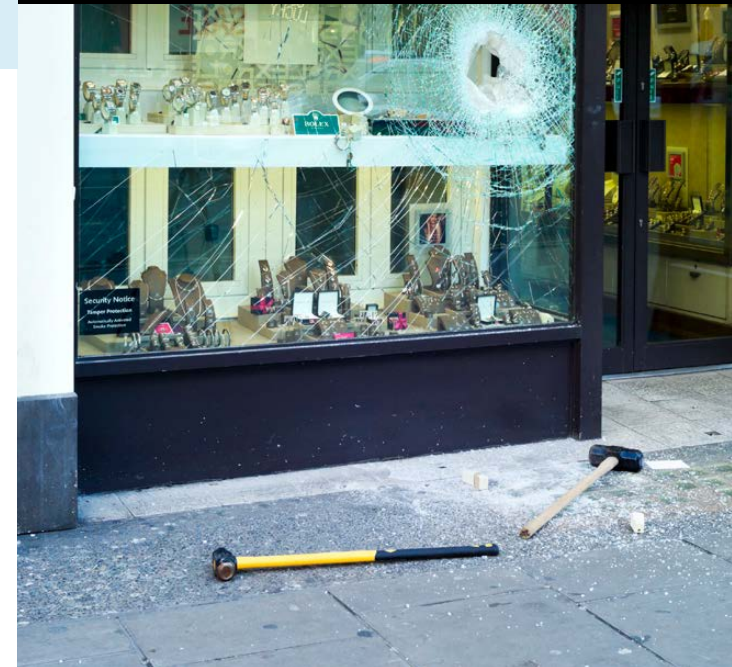
For more information, contact the Communications & Engagement Coordinator
425-430-7520

Renton Police Department
1055 S Grady Way, Renton, WA 98057
rentonwa.gov/police



RENTON POLICE

PREVENTING COMMERCIAL BURGLARY



PROTECT THE PERIMETER

Make sure all entrances are protected with deadbolt locks. Deadbolt locks should have a bolt that extends at least 1.5 inches into the door frame.

Lock any attic doors, air vents or skylights from the inside.

All exterior or security doors should be metal or solid-core wood. Exposed hinges should be pinned to prevent removal. For employee safety, all solid doors should have peepholes installed.





The most common method of entry is to force or pry a door. The second most common is to break a window or glass door.

SECURE WINDOWS & DOORS

Windows should have secure locks, auxiliary locking devices and shatter-resistant glass. Another alternative is security film, which can be installed on windows to make them more resistant to breaking.

Always double-check doors at closing time to be sure they are locked and secure all windows.

Remove any items that could provide the means for a criminal to access your rooftop and then into your business.

Maintain key control procedures for all employees and change the locks (or have existing locks re-tumbled) when an employee leaves. For electronic key cards, disable them if employment is terminated.

LOOK AT THE LANDSCAPE

Trim trees and shrubs near doors and windows to eliminate hiding places for would-be thieves.

Plant thorny bushes under windows where a potential burglar might attempt to gain entry.

Remove rocks that are near windows as they could be used to break windows and gain entry.

Keep your windows cleared of signs, merchandise and advertisements that can obstruct the view of a passer-by or a police officer. Crimes in progress that cannot be seen cannot be reported.

Install exterior lighting to increase the visibility in parking lots and around doors, windows, skylights and other entry points.

BOLLARDS

It is recommended that retail businesses and strip-small type properties consider placing bollards in the front of the buildings with glass fronts and/or doors to deter drive-in vehicle smash-and-grabs.

Bollards can come in many forms, some that can be installed into the ground (permanent) and others that can be decorative in nature (temporary and above ground). Both can serve the purpose of deterring a vehicle from driving into a business. Pictured below are a few examples of bollards, standard and decorative.

Most attempts at this type of burglary will be focused on the front entry, especially if it is made of glass or there are several windows, placing this business at higher risk than others.



THE ALARMING QUESTION

The focus of burglary prevention is to make your business a less likely target in the first place.

To accomplish this, your business needs to be properly secured, well-lit during hours of

“Should my business have an alarm?”

darkness, with expensive merchandise and cash protected.

An alarm may provide additional security, as well as peace of mind. Before

investing in an alarm system, check with several companies and decide what level of security fits your needs.

Learn how to use your system properly and test and maintain it regularly. If you decide to invest in an alarm system, check with your local police department to see if you need to register your alarm.

Alarms in Renton must be registered. For more information, visit rentonwa.gov/police.

MORE SUGGESTIONS

Keep a current inventory of your business machinery and equipment, such as computers, printers, tools, etc. Providing the police with a list that contains the brand, model number, serial number and description of each item stolen, will assist in recovering your property.

Use heavy cables to lock down computers, machinery and other expensive equipment. If it takes a long time to remove the item, a crook might get frustrated and leave without it.

Make sure your safe is fireproof and securely anchored. Leave it open when it's empty and use it to lock up cash, business checks, keys and valuable merchandise when business is closed.

Make bank deposits every day and at varying hours. If there's no cash on the premises, a criminal can't steal it from you!

Leave cash registers empty and open after hours. This will show any burglar “shopping” for a target that there is no cash inside.