

## PRACTICE T-L-C

### TAKE OUT VALUABLES

### LOCK YOUR VEHICLE

### CLOSE YOUR WINDOWS & SUN/MOON ROOF

#### Take out Valuables:

If you can leave your valuables at home do so. Otherwise, take valuables with you rather than leaving them in your vehicle. If you have to leave them in the vehicle place them in your trunk *prior to arriving at your destination.*

#### Lock your vehicle:

Verify that your vehicle is securely locked before leaving the area. Keyless or remote locking systems can malfunction from a low battery, etc. leaving your vehicle vulnerable. Make sure it's locked! Check your remote locking and alarm activation devices batteries on a regular basis.

#### Close Windows and Sun/Moon Roof:

Windows and sun/moon roof (if equipped) allows a thief a quick and quiet way to enter your vehicle. Even a crack in the window makes a thief's job so much easier. Verify that your vehicle windows are rolled up and the sun/moon roof is closed before leaving the vehicle.

## The Indio Police Department

would like your help by following these tips to aid in reducing auto burglaries. Remember that the best prevention against thefts from vehicles is to always lock your vehicle and not leave valuables visible. Let's get together in moving the thieves out of Indio. Don't be a victim be safe.

If you do see suspicious activity it is important to report it immediately to the Indio Police Department by calling 911. If possible get a good description of the thief, his/her clothing, color and make of vehicle and direction of travel. It is not always possible to get a complete vehicle license number. Even a partial License number is helpful. If you are not sure where you are, look for a landmark or a street address on a building.

TAKE A BITE OUT OF  
**CRIME**



If you feel uncomfortable about calling the police department, you can report suspicious activity anonymously to the Valley Crime Stoppers at 760-341-STOP (7867). You don't have to give your name. An operator will take your information and assign you a code number. If an arrest is made, you can call crime stoppers again, provide the code number and a reward will be paid.

**Help the Indio Police Department:  
Be a crime stopper not a victim. Lock  
your car -Report suspicious activity.**

This brochure was developed by the Indio  
Police Department's C.H.I.P. program  
(Citizens Helping Indio Police)

# INDIO POLICE

Est. 1930

## LOCK IT OR LOSE IT



## “Our Community Our Commitment”

### Indio Police Department

46-800 Jackson St.  
Indio, CA 92201  
Phone: 760-391-4057  
Fax: 760-391-4036  
[www.indiopolice.org](http://www.indiopolice.org)

## FOLLOW THESE SUGGESTIONS TO DETER CRIMINALS:

- Take your keys out of your vehicle
- Lock your car
- Park in well-lit areas
- Park in attended lots
- Leave only ignition/door key with the lot attendant.
- Completely close car windows when parking
- Do not leave valuables in plain view (place items in your trunk if they must be left in the car)
- Use your garage
- Lock your garage door and the vehicle inside
- Engrave expensive accessories
- Use tire/wheel locks
- Install an audible alarm
- Take out removable radios and face plates
- Avoid parking between large vehicles and big bushes (they provide cover for thieves)
- Do not approach your vehicle when a stranger is near it; Call 911 or security for an escort



## ITEMS TO AVOID LEAVING IN PLAIN VIEW:

- Cell phones
- GPS navigation systems
- Charger cords
- Antennas
- Pagers
- Sports equipment (golf and baseball bags)
- iPods
- Cigarettes
- Weapons
- CDs/VDVs
- Briefcases
- Purses
- Wallets
- Radar detectors
- Laptop computers
- Removable radios
- Clothing
- Money (loose change)
- Cassette tapes
- Address books
- Credit cards
- Console visors



## BE AWARE OF CRIMINAL'S METHODS AND LOCATIONS:

### Entry Methods:

- Break glass
- Use unlocked door
- Pried/jimmied window or door
- Open windows
- Open vent windows
- Sliding truck windows
- Open sun roofs
- Convertibles

### High Risk Areas:

- Apartment Parking Lots
- Single family residence driveways
- Auto repair shops/dealers
- Shopping center parking lots
- Restaurant and bar parking lots
- Park parking lots

### Suspicious Actions:

- Pulling door handles
- Looking in windows
- Odd clothing for the time of year (long coats and/or gloves worn in summer)
- Lookouts
- Nervous behavior
- Checking for alarms by bumping windows or bumpers for sensitivity

