

## Keep your home safe this Christmas

With Christmas and the summer holidays fast approaching, it is important to plan ahead and ensure your home is secure.

There are a number of simple tips to increase home safety during the holiday season.

### Things to do before your holidays:

- If you know your neighbours well, let them know of your holiday plans.
- Notify Police of the dates you will be away and the contact details of a key holder.
- Arrange for Australia Post to hold or redirect your mail, or request a neighbour or friend to collect your mail.
- Cancel newspaper deliveries or if you receive free newspapers get them collected.
- Arrange for someone to mow your lawn and water your garden.
- Consider installing automatic timing devices for lights, radios and televisions.
- Engrave all your valuables with your Driver's Licence number.

### Whenever you're away:

- Lock all doors and windows securely.
- Turn down the ringing volume on your telephone.
- Make sure all vehicles left at home are properly secured.
- Lock up garden tools and ladders and other items which could be used to gain entry into your home.
- Try not to advertise your holiday on social media sites or sell swap and buy sites.
- Don't leave house keys concealed inside or outside, leave them with a trusted neighbour or friend.

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