

**White Rock Community Policing - Home Security Program**  
**Are you helping thieves? Take our home security quiz to find out.**

The following quiz will help determine if your home is an easy target for thieves.  
Circle the best answer to each question.

**1. How well do you know your neighbors?**

- a. You don't know them, but you'd like to.
- b. You mind your own business, so should they?
- c. You know your neighbours and their schedules well.

**2. The doors in your home are secured with**

- a. Steel door chains.
- b. Dead bolt locks.
- c. Easy-opened with credit card, in case you forget your key.

**3. If locked out of your house, what's the best way to get back in?**

- a. Use something from your unlocked tool shed.
- b. A locksmith is the only way past the deadbolts on the doors and the bars on the windows.
- c. The spare key from under the potted plant.

**4. How often do you leave your door unlocked?**

- a. Never. Not even when you're home.
- b. You sometimes leave the back door unlocked, but only when you go to the store.
- c. Always. Making it that much easier to catch thieves in the act.

**5. Your property is surrounded by**

- a. Six-foot hedges that block out the world.
- b. Trimmed trees and shrubs, creating clear lines of sight.
- c. A giant steel wall.

**6. You keep your valuables**

- a. Under the mattress.
- b. In a jewelry box on the top of the dresser
- c. In a safety deposit box in a security vault protected by armed guards at the local bank

**7. The alarm system on your house**

- a. Is too much of a hassle to arm every time you go out.
- b. Goes off so often, your neighbours think it's your doorbell.
- c. Is set every time you go out?

### 8. When leaving on vacation you

- a. Set light timers to give your home a lived-in look.
- b. Turn off the lights and pull the drapes so no one can see inside.
- c. See no need to cancel newspapers or mail delivery.

### 9. Your upstairs windows

- a. Don't have locks. Thieves can't reach them anyhow.
- b. Are easily reached by that ladder you left propped up against the house
- c. Are not near any climbable trellises or tree branches.

### 10. When it comes to your car keys, you

- a. Take them out of the ignition wherever you park, except in your own driveway.
- b. Park your car in the garage and keep the keys in a secure location.
- c. Leave them in an easy to find location, like the key rack by the door.

### Answers:

|    |                                                                                                                                                                                                                |   |
|----|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---|
| 1  | Belonging to Block Watch can reduce break-ins in your neighbourhood by 40%.                                                                                                                                    | C |
| 2  | Many door and window locks are secured by small screws, making them vulnerable to a simple kick. Windows and doors that can't be seen from the street need extra security.                                     | B |
| 3  | Most thieves break in through ground level doors and windows, often by using tools or heavy objects they find on your property. Leaving a spare key under the flowerpot makes it easier for thieves to get in. | B |
| 4  | Some thieves watch to determine your schedule. There is never a safe time to leave doors and windows unlocked.                                                                                                 | A |
| 5  | Thieves like to work where they can't be seen from the street. A well-lit property with entrances easily visible from the street is not attractive to thieves.                                                 | B |
| 6  | Most thieves steal cash and valuables that are easy to find. Odds are your safety deposit box will never be stolen.                                                                                            | C |
| 7  | Alarms work. Thieves will often avoid a house that have one.                                                                                                                                                   | C |
| 8  | Thieves prefer to break into homes when they think no one is home. Timers attached to lights, TV or stereos help create the illusion of occupancy                                                              | A |
| 9  | While thieves prefer the ease of ground floor entrances, they sometimes rely on homeowners who don't secure upstairs windows.                                                                                  | C |
| 10 | Thieves need a way to carry all your valuables. Leaving your car keys in a visible location will help them to do just that.                                                                                    | B |

### Score

8 or more correct: Your home is a castle. Thieves be warned.

5 to 7 correct: Your home is a difficult target, but could still be tougher.

4 or less correct: You are helping thieves. But it's never too late to raise your score.

Secure your home today and stop being an easy target.

Thank you to the Vancouver Police Department for the Quiz.