

Securing Your Garage Door

- Install a separate alarm control for the garage. That way you can alarm the system without affecting the rest of your home. If there's motion detection in the garage it will detect anyone entering your garage with the help of a stolen remote door opener or garage door entry code.
- Place alarm stickers on the front of your overhead door as well as the outside main door leading into the garage.
- Place all tools that could aid in a break-in behind lock and key. Once burglars break into your garage, they could grab your tools and use them to gain entry into the rest of your home.
- Most overhead garage doors today have a motorized garage-door opener. If you have an older model with dip switches at the top of the unit, you may want to replace it with the newer version that has something called rolling codes. The newer units make it almost impossible for a burglar to use a code grabber to capture the frequency to gain entry.
- When you move to a new home, there's no way of telling how many remotes operate your overhead garage door. Changing the frequency code on your remote door openers is as important as changing the keys to your home. Remotes are often loaned to tradesmen, gardeners and other family members.
- Often the instructions on how to do the change the code are listed on the opener itself (located near your garage ceiling). If you can't find the instructions, you should be able to Google the manufacturer's name and download the operating manual.

- Check and see if your new home has an overhead garage door digital keypad, which is used to open and close the door from the outside. These units are usually on the outside of the door. These units allow access to the garage by entering an access code. Their main purpose is to allow access into the garage without having to carry a remote or having to enter the garage through the house. The frequency codes in these units must be changed to prevent previous code holders from entering their code and accessing your garage. In most cases, changing the code on these push button door controllers is no more difficult than changing a remote control unit. Often the instructions on how to change the entry code are printed on the inside of the keypad lid.
- Criminals who know how to activate the emergency door release on garage doors with windows can be inside in 10-15 seconds. The break-in technique leaves no traces, so when your garage door closes it locks back into place -- so you may not even know they've been there until you notice something missing and wonder how it happened.
- Putting a zap strap through the emergency release will prevent a thief from opening the door from the outside. The strap goes through the two holes, one on the top and one in the emergency release handle. You pull it tight and the emergency release is secure. A hard tug from below the door will snap the zap strap but it will still prevent anyone outside from tripping the release. "It's secure and still functional"
- Being proactive can help prevent you from being a victim.
- Using some of those other preventative means such as:
 - Install motion detector lights,
 - Make sure the garage door is well maintained and sturdy and that other doors leading to and from the garage are fitted with a dead bolt lock.
 - Ensure windows are covered or use frosted glass to prevent anyone seeing what you have inside.
 - Remove all property from your vehicle including the garage door opener whenever you park the car.
 - Make neighbours aware of people who can be expected to visit around the property and keeping an eye on each other's' property.