

GUARD-ALERT GAZETTE

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Clients' newsletter



Holiday home Security

As we are all heading towards the Heroes holidays, and a well deserved break for a few days, some of us will be considering travelling away from their homes. Other than safe driving as we all head to our various destinations, the security of the homes which we will be leaving for a few days is of outmost importance. Guard-Alert Security would like to urge its customers to ensure that they have secured their homes before they travel so as to have peace of mind while they are on holiday.

Here are a few tips which you can keep in mind to better secure your home during these holidays:

1. Burglars do their homework before they rob your house. It is therefore important to notice any strangers loitering in your neighbourhood or note any unfamiliar cars. There is nothing wrong with going up to a parked vehicle and to politely greet the car occupants- remember thieves do not like being identified and hence they are unlikely to return to an area where they might be remembered



2. Avoid tall or large shrubs near your home which can provide a shelter for would be thieves

3. Ensure that outside lights are in good working order and that there aren't any areas in your yard which are in dark shadows.

4. Think like a burglar and see what they would see. Avoid putting out boxes or packaging for newly bought items such as flat screen television sets, out in plain sight because they will assume that the expensive items are in your house. This will increase

the likelihood of a break in

5. Service your alarm and have a back up battery in case of lengthy load shedding hours. Get outside sensors and laser beams installed for external valuables and essentials such as pool and borehole pumps, gate motors etc. Contact Guard-Alert Electronics for a quotation.

6. Update your contact number that your Rapid Response crew will call in case your alarm goes off

7. You should lock all doors and shut all windows even if these are burglar barred. Remember to also lock your tool shed and garage as thieves like going for easy pickings which do not require much effort to steal.

8. Secure items such as ladders, hammers which might be used as an aid in housebreaking

9. Fit blinds or curtains at your windows so that it is



and switch off at set times. You could also leave some lights on if you do not have timed lights as well as a radio if possible

11. With the advent of social media, we all love to share our news with friends. However, avoid posting your holiday plans on media such as face book as your plans can be accessed by undesirables

12. If you are going to be away for a long time, arrange for someone to mow your lawn so that your house does not appear deserted

13. Mark your belongings as such property makes it harder to sell and it is also easier to recover

14. Assign a trusted friend to come and check on your property while you are away BUT do not leave a key for them under a flower pot, or in a hiding spot. Thieves know where to look from experience

Stay safe and enjoy the holidays.

not easy for a thief to look through the window and study your household contents

10. It is important that your home does not appear deserted while you are away; therefore you should invest in lights timers which will automatically go on

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