



Harris County Constable's Office
Precinct 2
101 S. Richey, Suite C, Pasadena, TX 77506 713-477-2766



My Fellow Resident,

I appreciate your desire to enhance the security of your residence. In order to expedite the process, we have included an inspection checklist for your review. The checklist outlines the common security enhancements we look for during the inspection. These same enhancements are often respected by insurance companies and may lead to homeowner's insurance premium reductions.

Please read over this list carefully to ensure that you have made the improvements *before* you schedule an inspection.

Proper physical security is very important in the protection of your home against the criminal element. Another essential part of good home security is active participation in your neighborhood's Special Watch and Vacation Watch Programs.

The effort you are making may save you money and will help make your neighborhood a safer place to live. The more secure a neighborhood, the less likely it is to be a target of crime.

If you are member of one of our contracted neighborhood, we ask you to do your part and become an active participant in our Special Watch and Vacation Watch Program. If you are not currently contracted with us, we encourage you to or to start a "community watch" group in your neighborhood.

For further information about our Vacation and Special Watch Program, or if you desire more information on contracting patrol services with Harris County Constable's Office Precinct 2, please call Captain Jerry Luman at 713-274-6158, or our main number at (713)477-2766.

You may also visit our website at <http://www.hccp2.com> for further information on our services.

Christopher E. Diaz
Constable
Harris County Precinct 2

SECURITY INSPECTION CHECKLIST

DOORS-

- Are your exterior doors made of solid core and composed of wood or metal?
- Are your exterior doors a minimum 1- 3/8" thick?
- Is each exterior door secured by a deadbolt lock?
- Do your double doors meet the specifications for exterior doors listed above?
- Is the inactive door secured by a header and threshold bolt that penetrates a metal strike plate? (**See references photos at the bottom of the page**)

SLIDING DOORS-

- Do your sliding glass doors have secondary locking devices to resist LIFTING and PRYING?

DUTCH DOORS-

- Do your Dutch doors have concealed flush-bolt locking devices to interlock upper and lower halves? (**See references photos at the bottom of the page**)
- Are the upper and lower halves secured by a deadbolt lock?

DEADBOLT LOCKS-

- Are your dead-bolt locks equipped with a minimum one inch throw bolt that penetrates a *metal* strike plate? (**See references photos at the bottom of the page**)
- Is there any breakable glass within **40 inches** of a deadbolt lock?

Note: This is a recommendation but not a requirement. French-style and sliding doors (though not recommended for proper home security) will not cause you to fail the inspection.

Please Note: Double-cylinder deadbolts that lock from both sides may be deemed to be in violation of existing local Fire Codes and considered a safety hazard (**See references photos at the bottom of the page**).

GARAGE AREA (If connected to the House)-

Is your overhead roll up garage door(s) equipped with a key-operated locking device?

Note: Any key-operated locking device (even a hasp and padlock) will qualify an overhead garage door. Electric garage door openers also qualify as a key-operated locking device.

WINDOWS-

Windows must be secured by **auxiliary** or **secondary** locking devices. A secondary locking device is in addition to the lock already equipped with the original window. These types of “locks” may include wooden dowels, pinning devices or thumb-screw locks (**See reference photos at the bottom of the page**).

- Storm windows meet the requirements of auxiliary window-locking devices if installed over the manufactured window.
- Jalousie or louvered windows do not meet the specifications unless they have metal grating mounted(**See reference photos at the bottom of the page**).

ALARM SYSTEM CONTACT INFORMATION-

All exterior structure openings must be contacted. “Contacted” means each window and exterior door should have a physical appliance (contact sensor) that will trigger the alarm if the door or window is opened when the house alarm is armed.

- The attached garage overhead/bay (roll up) door.
- Any other exterior openings in the garage (if connected to the house).
- All exterior doors and windows (upstairs included)
- All other entrances into the residence

ADDITIONAL ALARM SYSTEM ENHANCEMENTS-

Does your alarm system include an interior and an exterior siren?

Is all alarm equipment Underwriters Laboratory approved and the alarm is monitored by a U. L. approved central station?

- This requirement must be met by the homeowner or tenant by obtaining a letter from the Alarm Company stating so.
- The letter must be an original letter on the alarm company letterhead and signed by a representative of the company.
- The letter must also state that sales, service, installation and monitoring of the system are done in compliance with the Private Investigators and Private Security Agencies Act. (Article 4413 (29bb), Vernon's Texas Civil Statutes.
- The letter must be addressed to the insured with the correct address of the residence stated in the letter.
- The requirements along with the described letter from your alarm company must be met prior to an inspector coming to your residence.
- The inspector will retain the original copy of the letter, so it is recommended that you make a copy.

EXTERIOR CONSIDERATIONS-

It is recommended, but not necessary, that shrubbery and bushes show be cut to a point the upper edge of the foliage is below the window line and the bottom should be cut upward 12"-18".

This is a measure put in place so no potential intruder can hide behind the bushes or shrubbery.

It is recommended, but not necessary, that outdoor lighting be placed in a manner to illuminate those areas where an intruder might hide at night to conceal themselves.

EXAMPLES

Deadbolt locks for exterior doors

Double cylinder deadbolt lock



Single cylinder deadbolt locks with a thumb turn mechanism



Metal strike plate



Throw bolt



Jalousie or louvered windows



Glass grating



Metal grating

Auxiliary or secondary window locks

The windows on your home will already be equipped with some type of locking mechanism. An auxiliary or secondary locking device acts as a back-up should your original window lock fail.



Door styles

Double Doors



Sliding glass



French Doors



Dutch door



***Double or Dutch door
locking device***