

General:

- Are you and your family alert in your observations of persons who may have you under surveillance or who may be casing your house in preparation for a burglary or other crime?
- Have you verified the references of your domestic help, and have you submitted their names for security checks?
- Have you told your family and household assistants what to do if they discover an intruder breaking into or already in the house?
- Have you restricted the number of house keys?
- Do you know where all your house keys are?
- Have you identified telephone contact numbers for all adults?
- Have you identified rally points, such as at a neighbor's house or other identified location, for use in emergencies if the house must be evacuated?

Individual Security Vulnerability Assessment Checklist

This vulnerability assessment checklist was provided by the U.S. Army Criminal Investigation Command (USACIDC) to evaluate residences. Prospective renters should attempt to negotiate security upgrades as part of the lease contract when and where appropriate.

Always Ready, Always Alert
Because someone is depending on you



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Exterior Grounds:

- If you have a fence or tight hedge, have you evaluated it as a defense against intrusion?
- Is your fence or wall in good repair?
- Are the gates solid and in good repair?
- Are the gates properly locked during the day and at night?
- Do you check regularly to see that your gates are locked?
- Have you eliminated trees, poles, ladders, boxes, etc., that may help an intruder to scale the fence, wall, or hedge?
- Have you removed shrubbery near your gate, garage, or front door that could conceal an intruder?
- Do you have lights to illuminate all sides of your residence, garage area, patio, etc.?
- Do you leave your lights on during hours of darkness?
- Do you check regularly to see that the lights are working?
- If your residence is guarded, does his/her post properly position him/her to have the best possible view of your grounds and residence?
- If applicable, does your guard patrol your grounds during the hours of darkness?
- If applicable, has your guard been given verbal or written instructions and does he/she understand them?
- Do you have dogs or other pets that will sound an alarm if they spot an intruder?
- Have you considered installation of a camera system with recording capabilities or a dummy camera system as a deterrent?

Interior Features:

- Are your perimeter doors made of metal or solid wood?
- Are the doorframes of good solid construction?
- Do you have an interview grill or optical viewer in your main entrance door?
- Do you use the interview grill or optical viewer?
- Are your perimeter doors properly secured with good heavy-duty deadbolt locks?
- Are the locks in good working order?
- Can any of your door locks be bypassed by breaking the glass or a panel of lightwood?
- Have you permanently secured all unused doors?
- Are your windows protected by solid steel bars, ornamental, or some other type of shutters?
- Are unused windows permanently closed and secured?
- Are your windows locked when they are shut?
- Are you as careful of second floor or basement windows as you are of those on the ground floor?
- Have you secured sliding glass doors and similar style windows with a broom handle,
- "Charlie bar," or good patio door lock?
- If your residence has a skylight, roof latch, or roof doors, are they properly secured?
- Does your residence have an alarm system?
- Have you briefed your family and household assistants on good security procedures?
- Do you know the phone number of the police or security force that services your neighborhood?