

## WHEN YOU'RE AWAY

- Leave a radio or television playing at normal volume while you are absent.
- Leave a few lights on in the apartment at night while you are away to give it the "lived-in" look.
- If you will be away from your apartment for an extended period of time (such as a vacation), use inexpensive plug-in timers that will turn lights and appliances on and off.
- Do not leave notes on the door or in the mailbox indicating your absence.
- Do not let newspapers and mail accumulate in front of the apartment door or mailbox. Have a trusted friend or neighbor pick them up for you.
- It may be a good idea to inform the apartment management or security of any extended absence, as they may be able to keep an eye on your apartment for any unusual activity while you are away.

# Apartment Safety

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*This information provided  
Courtesy of:*



## **A safe apartment living environment doesn't have to cost a fortune. These tips can help you keep you and your apartment safe.**

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### **APARTMENT SAFETY TIPS**

- When you move into a new apartment, request that the lock/cylinder be changed so previous tenants cannot enter.
- Don't advertise that you live alone. Use initials on mailboxes and for telephone listings.
- Introduce yourself to your neighbors.
- Never leave your doors unlocked. Keep them locked even when you are home.
- Like your doors, keep your windows locked and secured.
- Do not keep keys under door mats, flower pots or on top of door frames. Most burglars are aware of these common hiding places.

- Never open your door until you know who is there. Use a peephole.
- Don't rely on a chain latch for security.
- Call the police when you see illegal activity, and then report it to your landlord.
- Help protect your neighbors as well as yourself. Never mention to a stranger that a neighbor lives alone or is home alone.
- Stay away from deserted laundry areas. Especially at night. Try to do such chores when other people are present, or ask a friend to go with you.
- Report any strangers loitering in or around your apartment building to the police as well as the apartment management.
- Never open your door automatically after a knock. Insist that callers identify themselves.
- You should always request salesmen and repairmen to show identification prior to being admitted into your home.

- If your apartment community has a gated entrance, don't allow anyone to piggyback behind you, as many criminals gain entry into communities in this way.
- Never give out copies of your keys, or let someone use it. It takes only a few seconds to make a copy of a key.
- If you see that your apartment has been broken into, **do not enter**. Go to another location and call 911.

