

PIN SWITCHES: Plunger type switches that are installed on the doors, hood and trunk, which, when released to their furthest extension, activates the siren.

GLASS PROTECTION: A sensing device is available that discriminates the sound of breaking glass and can be used in conjunction with switches for overall alarm protection.

VOLTAGE SENSING DEVICE: This device is attached to the wiring of the vehicle and triggers the alarm when a drain of power is detected such as from an interior, hood, or trunk light.

MOTION SENSING DEVICE: Sends out sound waves above human hearing and is activated by any disturbance in the sound wave pattern. (Note: This alarm can and has been activated by vibrations of passing vehicles.)

MERCURY OR TILT SWITCH: Placed in the car, this device detects any motion of the car. (Note: Cannot be used when parked on a hill, slope or other than flat ground.)

PASSIVE ARMING: Automatic arming. A passive arming alarm system will arm itself automatically when you leave the car. Turning off the ignition activates a countdown timer (usually 30 or 60 seconds). When the countdown (also called "Exit Delay") ends, the alarm arms. This system is called "Passive" arming because you don't actually do anything to arm the alarm. Most of the better systems are designed to wait until you open and close a door before arming. These are called "Last-Door-Arming" alarms.

IF YOUR CAR DOES GET STOLEN

- Report theft to police.
- Obtain form MV78B "License Plate Form" from your local police precinct.
- Notify your insurance company.
- Submit Form MV78B to Department of Motor Vehicle.
- Retain a copy of Department of Motor Vehicle Form as a receipt.

NOTE: False reporting of vehicle theft is a crime and can be punishable by a fine or imprisonment.

PERSONAL SAFETY

Proper maintenance of your vehicle will prevent routine breakdowns thereby avoiding vulnerable situations. A cellular telephone offers a degree of protection as it gives you outside contact in the event of an emergency.

Check the following items on a routine basis:

- Tire pressure and wear;
- Oil, brake, battery and power steering fluids;
- Radiator coolant level;
- Window washer fluid;

In the event that you do break down having the following items in your trunk will be extremely helpful. These items can be placed in a box or plastic container with a lid.

- Flashlight with extra batteries;
- Screwdrivers and pliers;
- Duct tape;
- Jack, lug wrench & flat board (to place under jack on soft ground);
- Can of "Fix A Flat";
- Rags;
- Gallon of Water (For radiator or drinking);
- Folding shovel

- Gloves (Latex and work);
- Booster cables;
- Fire extinguisher (2 lb.);
- Extra fan belt;
- Ice scraper;
- Winter gloves;
- Blanket;
- Sand in a clean and dry detergent container;
- First Aid Kit;
- Flares;
- Triangles;
- Writing pad and pen/pencil;
- Emergency contact telephone numbers;
- Call Police or Help Sign.

NEW YORK CITY POLICE DEPARTMENT

SAFEGUARD YOUR AUTO



You can help us fight terrorism,
report suspicious activity to:

1-888-NYC-SAFE
1-888-692-7233

Office of the Chief of Department
Crime Prevention Section
34 ½ East 12th Street
New York, N.Y. 10003
212-614-6741

PREVENT AUTO THEFT

To a thief, there's nothing like a car. It's self-propelled and fully equipped for a fast getaway. The car and most especially its components, are items in steady demand.

Under the law, the owner or authorized driver of a car may not leave the vehicle unattended without locking the ignition and removing the key. A significant number of automobiles are stolen because drivers fail to remove ignition keys. We hope you will observe this law at all times and make it even more difficult to steal your vehicle by adding precautions of your own.

ESTABLISH GROUND RULES

All members of the family should know how to protect the car against theft. Licenses, registration cards or other identifying papers that a thief could misuse should never be left in the car. Keys should be carefully guarded. If the keys have punch-out numbers these should be removed and kept at home for reference in case of loss.

HOW TO GIVE A THIEF A HARD TIME

The National Automobile Theft Bureau (NATB) recommends the following precautions:

- Park in a well-lighted area
- Close all windows, lock all doors
- Activate any theft deterrent device you may have
- Put packages or valuable out of sight: CB radios, tape and cassette decks and other expensive items in full view invite theft.
- If you park in a commercial lot or garage, leave only the ignition key with the attendant.
- Do not keep license, registration or title in car. If left in car, thieves can use these documents to sell your car if stolen, or to impersonate you when they are challenged by police. Owners who indiscriminately leave keys, registrations and other identifiable material in their vehicles may return to their residence only to find that they are the victims of a burglary.
- If you have a garage, use it. Lock both the vehicle and the garage.

PERSONAL IDENTIFICATION PAYS

Identification of stolen vehicles after they have been recovered continues to plague car owners, police and auto insurers.

Today, in spite of wide-spread use of identification numbers on automobiles and component parts, ownership is often difficult to prove because experienced thieves increasingly are removing

manufacturers' identification numbers completely. NATB recommends, therefore, that each motorist inscribe the car with the Vehicle Identification Number.

Etch the Vehicle Identification Number in several hard-to-find spots, using an engraving tool, on each component part. Write your name in crayon under the hood or trunk.

If your car is stolen, the police will need specific information to identify the car, parts and accessories. Take the time to record detailed information. If a car thief replaces your license plates, alters the vehicle identification number or repaints the car, other points of identification will be available.

If your car becomes a victim of a "chop shop" (a place where component parts are stripped off a stolen vehicle) at least the police have a better chance of recovering all or part of your car and arresting the thief.

JOIN THE POLICE DEPARTMENT'S ANTI-AUTO THEFT PROGRAMS

The C.A.T., COMMUTER C.A.T., H.E.A.T. and VIN ETCHING programs are voluntary decal programs which entails a more aggressive police response to auto thefts by authorizing investigative stops of participating vehicles. Contact your local precinct crime prevention officer for more information or to join any of these programs.

AUTO THEFT SECURITY DEVICES

In order to secure your car several devices may be installed to deter or prevent theft of the car or any of its parts or contents. Anti-theft devices, expensive or not, are going to deter the inexperienced thief. The installation of anti-theft devices would provide obstacles to even the experienced thief by increasing the thief's exposure to arrest.

IGNITION CUT-OFF: A key-operated or hidden manual switch that interrupts the power supply from the battery to the ignition.

FUEL CUT-OFF: Integrated into the fuel line, this device prevents the flow of gasoline once the fuel in the gas line is used. Only a special key deactivates the cut-off.

IGNITION COLUMN GUARD: This security device can provide protection to the ignition starting system. The device fits around the steering column and over the ignition starting system.

HOOD LOCK: A secondary hood lock should be installed to prevent access to the power source, battery or siren, for an alarm system, via a key-operated bolt, which is accessible from inside the car.

DOOR LOCKS: Visible inside door lock buttons should be smooth and tapered.

RADIO SECURITY: Slide mount removable radio devices are recommended. The idea is simple: If you do not want it stolen, take it with you.

ANTI-THEFT STEERING WHEEL LOCK: Locks on and prevents steering wheel from turning. Its high visibility deters theft.

GUARD PLATE: Install a guard plate over the trunk lock with carriage bolts to protect the trunk cylinder.

TRUNK LOCK: As an auxiliary or secondary locking device, a heavy duty chain lock may be installed inside the trunk and is key-operated.

WHEEL LOCKS: This device replaces one lug nut on each tire and is key-operated. (Hub caps: Special locking devices are available for certain hub caps such as the spoked hub, etc.)

CAR ALARMS

There are several alarm systems that will serve to deter or discourage the car thief, and alert others of forced entry into the car.

IF YOUR CAR ALARM SHOULD GO OFF:

- Observe behavior around your car;
- Take description, license plate numbers, etc.;
- If suspicious person, call 911;
- DO NOT TAKE ACTION . . . your safety is our first concern.

SIREN: The sounding device, used in lieu of the horn, is installed in the engine compartment and should have an audible range of at least 300 feet.

Note: The Administrative Code Section 24-221(D) 1986, mandates: "No owner of a building, or of a motor vehicle shall have in operation an audible burglar alarm thereon unless such burglar alarm shall be capable of and shall automatically terminate its operation, within fifteen minutes of its being activated in the case of a building, and ten minutes of its being activated in the case of a motor vehicle:

Any motor vehicle on which a burglar alarm has been installed shall, when parked on a public highway or parking lot open to the public, prominently display the number and telephone of the owner's local police precinct where information shall be on file to permit communication with the owner of such motor vehicle.