

# The Puyallup Police Department is concerned about Vehicle Break-Ins and Theft - don't be the next victim

## Are any of these items visible in YOUR vehicle?

- ▶ Cell Phone
- ▶ GPS Unit
- ▶ mp3 players or Music CDs
- ▶ Purse and/or wallet
- ▶ Shopping bags, clothes, or other merchandise
- ▶ Laptop, tablet or other electronic equipment
- ▶ Sporting equipment or Tools
- ▶ Checkbooks or other papers for identity theft

If so, a THIEF could easily steal them in just seconds. Ensure your car is locked and has no valuables in sight.

## You CAN prevent vehicle break-ins

A vehicle break-in is the theft of property from your automobile. Vehicle break-ins only take a few moments – especially when the car is left unlocked or when thieves smash windows to grab items they have seen inside! Criminals often drive through parking lots looking for vehicles with open windows and/or unlocked doors. Vehicle prowlers also look for valuables left in the open such as cell phones, laptops, iPods and purses. If you must leave valuables in your car, conceal those items from view before arriving at your parking space, if possible.

Be aware that vehicle break-ins commonly lead to other crimes such as fraud and identity theft, so limit the amount of personal information you keep in your vehicle. Record serial numbers of your valuables and keep them in a safe place (not inside your vehicle).

If you see any suspicious persons or activity, call 9-1-1. For additional information contact the Problem Oriented Policing Unit at 253.841.5531 or visit us at [www.puyalluppolice.org](http://www.puyalluppolice.org)

**Auto thefts? Car break-ins?**  
**NOT in Puyallup!**  
**Ten Ways to Reduce Auto Thefts & Break-ins**

**PUYALLUP POLICE**

- LOCK All the Doors
- INSTALL a Locking Fuel Cap
- INSTALL a Vehicle Tracking System
- INSTALL an Ignition or Fuel Cut-off Switch
- COMPLETELY CLOSE All Windows
- REMOVE All Valuables
- INSTALL a Steering Wheel Locking Device
- INSTALL an Alarm System with a Kill Switch
- NEVER Leave Your Vehicle Running Unattended
- PARK in Well-Lit Locations. Avoid Isolated Areas

[www.puyalluppolice.org](http://www.puyalluppolice.org)