

Organizations and Programs that can help:

**U.S Department of Justice, Bureau of
Justice Assistance**

- For crime prevention information and tools for law enforcement, visit www.bja.gov.

NMVTIS

- The National Motor Vehicle Title Information System (NMVTIS) is a U.S. Department of Justice program designed to protect consumers from fraud and unsafe vehicles and to keep stolen vehicles from being resold. NMVTIS is also a tool that assists states and law enforcement in deterring and preventing title fraud and other crimes.
- Consumers can research vehicle history and obtain information on title data, brand history, odometer reading, total loss history, and salvage history.
- To find out more information and to use this service, visit www.vehiclehistory.gov.

National Insurance Crime Bureau

- Review the National Insurance Crime Bureau's brochure on vehicle cloning at www.nicb.org.
- NICB offers a toll-free hotline for individuals who suspect insurance fraud or theft. Call 1-800-TEL-NICB (1-800-835-6422).

Federal Bureau of Investigation

- For more information and tips, visit www.fbi.gov.



Crime Prevention Tips From:

**City of Naples Police Department
Community Policing Division**

**355 Riverside Circle
Naples, FL 34102
Non-Emergency: (239)213-3000
www.naplesgov.com/police**

**National Crime Prevention Council
2001 Jefferson Davis Highway, Suite 901
Arlington, VA 22202
202-466-6272
www.ncpc.org**



**Naples Police Department
Auto Theft Prevention**

**LOCK IT,
OR
LOSE IT!**



Auto Theft 101

Motor vehicle theft, theft of items from autos, and VIN Cloning are just a few examples of rising crimes of opportunity. Owners must be vigilant and follow common-sense prevention tips to ensure their property is not stolen.

Continue reading to learn more about each crime, obtain prevention tips, and find organizations and partners that can help you protect your property.

Motor Vehicle Theft Overview

- Motor vehicle theft is usually a crime of opportunity.
- Auto theft can happen fast. An unoccupied car, with its engine left running by the owner, can be stolen in a matter of seconds.
- No geographic area or make or model of car is immune to theft.
- More than two-thirds of all auto theft occurs at night.
- In 2015:
 - An estimated 707,758 motor vehicle thefts occurred.
 - Motor vehicle theft cost Americans \$4.9 billion.
 - The average loss per stolen vehicle was \$7,001.

IMPLICATIONS

- Parts of cars are often worth more than the whole car. Thieves may deliver stolen cars to chop shops, which illegally sell untraceable parts.
- Law enforcement investigations have shown that criminals involved in domestic auto theft enterprises often perpetrate violent crimes, such as homicide, drug trafficking, human trafficking, and terrorism.
- Car theft drives up insurance premiums, especially in high-theft areas.

PREVENTION TIPS

- Never leave your vehicle unattended with the keys or key fobs anywhere inside of the vehicle.
- Always lock your doors and close your windows when you leave your car.
- Park in busy and well-lighted areas.
- Report auto theft immediately to police and include the make, model, Vehicle Identification Number (VIN), and plate number.
- Use alarms and anti-theft devices.
- Use advanced anti-theft precautions, such as etching the vehicle's VIN into the windows, making the vehicle easier to identify if stolen.
- Install a vehicle tracking system (such as a GPS recovery system). It can help police monitor and recover stolen vehicles.



Lock it or Lose it!

Theft from Autos/ Auto Burglaries

Overview

- Theft from autos is also a crime of opportunity, often when owners are not vigilant.
- Electronics and portable devices such as iPods, GPS devices, laptops, and cell phones are among items most often targeted. Even small change left visible may be enough to entice a criminal to break a car window.
- Each year, approximately \$1.2 billion in personal items are stolen from autos nationwide.
- About 1.85 million thefts happen each year, with countless more attempted break-ins.

PREVENTION TIPS

- Park in busy and well-lighted areas, keeping your car in plain sight.
- Since approximately one-fourth of thefts from vehicles are from unsecured autos, close all of your windows and lock all of your doors.
- Deter would-be thieves by using alarms and anti-theft devices.
- Keep valuable items, including their accessories, out of sight.
- Consider leaving expensive items at home unless they are truly needed, or take them with you when you leave your car.
- Report any suspicious activity that you see in parking lots or your neighborhood.