

HOW TO LOCK YOUR CAR VEHICLE BREAK-INS

Vehicle break-ins are the single most prevalent crime in the nation, and in LA County. Police warn that even a stray pair of sunglasses or a charging cord can prompt a thief to shatter a window in search of valuables. The best advice remains the most basic: Leave nothing visible in your automobile.

This is the most common crime in the city of Los Angeles. There are often more than 2,500 cases of burglary or theft from a vehicle each month. That works out to an average of over 80 every single day. In the first eight months of 2022, the Los Angeles Police Department fielded **20,489** reports of a vehicle break-in. That is an 8.6% increase from the same period last year.

It is worth noting that the count is essentially flat from the equivalent timeframe in the pre-pandemic year of 2019.

HOW TO - LOCK YOUR CAR!

Report of a scenario of vehicle break-ins from a client while a parking structure. This can be associated to residential locations as well:

“As I walked away from my car, I heard my car door unlock. I went back and locked my car again three times. Each time, as soon as I started to walk away, I would hear it unlock again!! Naturally alarmed, I looked around and there were two guys sitting in a car in the fire lane next to the store. They were obviously watching me intently, and there was no doubt they were somehow involved in this very weird situation. I quickly chucked the errand I was on, jumped in my car and sped away. I went straight to the police station, told them what had happened, and found out I was part of a new, and very successful, scheme being used to gain entry into cars. Two weeks later, my friend's son had a similar happening.

While traveling, my friend's son stopped at a roadside rest stop to use the bathroom. When he came out to his car less than 4-5 minutes later, someone had gotten into his car and stolen his cell phone, laptop computer, GPS navigator, briefcase... you name it. He called the police and since there were no signs of his car being broken into, the police told him he had been a victim of the latest vehicle break-in tactic and he explained, There is a device that thieves are using now to clone your security code when you lock your doors on your car using your key-chain locking device.

*They sit a distance away and watch for their next victim. They know you are going inside of the store, restaurant, or bathroom and that they now have a few minutes to steal and run. The police officer said to **manually lock your car door-by hitting the lock button inside the car -- that way if there is someone sitting in a parking lot watching for their next victim, it will not be you.***

When you hit the lock button on your car upon exiting, it does not send the security code but if you walk away and use the door lock on your key chain, it sends the code through the airwaves where it can be instantly stolen.

Be wisely aware of what you just read and please pass this information on. Look how many times we all lock our doors with our remote just to be sure we remembered to lock them -- and bingo, someone has our code...and whatever was in our car.”