



CAR SAFETY TIPS

Fact: According to the same study from the NHTSA, 40% to 50% of all vehicle related theft is due to owner error. So leaving your car unlocked, keys in the ignition, or a window too far down is only going to tempt crooks all the more. Removing valuables from plain sight will make a huge difference, seeing as smash-and-grab burglars are only interested in what can be easily stolen.



Never leave your keys in the ignition, says the National Insurance Crime Bureau (NICB). If your key is in the car, a thief can simply break a window and drive off. Keep spare keys in your wallet or purse, not inside the vehicle where a thief can easily find them.



Keep windows up and doors locked.

Keeping your doors locked is the first step in deterring a thief. It's good to get into the habit of checking your car doors.



Firestone cautions against leaving your car running, even if you're just going into a store for a quick errand. A running vehicle may be an easy mark for a thief, especially if it is unattended or unlocked.



Don't leave valuables in your car. One way to attract a thief is to leave a purse, cell phone or another high-value item in a highly visible area of your car. It's best to leave anything of value at home, but, if you must have something important with you, keep it out of sight.

SAFETY FIRST!