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# Preventing Theft From Vehicles

*By: Cst. Tom McKay*

Theft from vehicles is another reason why you should always lock your car. Opportunistic thieves will often rummage through any type of vehicle they find unlocked seeking valuables in your car. Prevent this type of theft by always keeping your vehicle locked or within a locked garage.

Never attract thieves to your vehicle by storing valuables or packages in open sight. Opportunistic thieves will not hesitate to break into your vehicle if they see something they want or think there might be value in such as a briefcase or empty purse. Prevent damage to your vehicle and loss of its contents by removing valuables from your vehicle at your earliest opportunity. Where you must store valuables in your vehicle for a short period of time, lock them in a trunk or, where your vehicle does not have a trunk, cover them as discreetly as possible.

To prevent loss of stereo and other electronic equipment, purchase components that can be removed from their brackets and locked in a secure area. Never "advertise" the fact that you have an expensive system, by playing your stereo loudly before you park.