Follow these Suggestions to Help Deter Vehicle Burglaries

- Take keys out
- Lock your car
- Park in well-lit areas
- Park in attended lots
- Leave only vehicle keys with lot attendant
- Completely close car windows when parking
- Don’t leave valuables in plain view (remove valuables at night; place in trunk during the day if items must be left in vehicle)
- Use your garage
- Lock garage door and vehicle inside
- Don’t leave your car running unattended
- Engrave expensive accessories
- Use tire/wheel locks
- Install an audible alarm system
- Take out removable radios and face plates
- Avoid parking between large vehicles
- Do not approach your vehicle when a stranger is near it; call the Tarleton Police Department for escort

H.E.A.T. (Help End Auto Theft in Texas)

Texas is the first state to implement a program where vehicle owners sign an agreement allowing police officers to verify ownership if the vehicle is observed during the HEAT hours of 1 a.m. – 5 a.m.

Matt Welch
Chief of Police

For more information please contact the

Tarleton State University Police Department
254-968-9002
police@tarleton.edu

After hours
254-968-9265

1600 W. Vanderbilt
Stephenville, TX 76402

For Emergencies
Call 9-1-1

VEHICLE BURGLARIES

Tarleton State University Police
Statistics and Prevention Techniques

A Part of the Division of Student Life
A Campaign for a Safer Tarleton
he following information list some common items, methods, and locations of vehicle burglaries. You may be a potential victim if you often leave valuable items in your vehicle or park in high risk areas. Reduce your chance of being a victim of vehicle burglary – become familiar with this information and practice the behavior found on the deterrents list.

What is a Vehicle Burglary?

A. A person commits an offense if, without the effective consent of the owner, he breaks into or enters a vehicle or any part of a vehicle with intent to commit any felony or theft.
B. For purposes of this section, "enter" means to intrude:
1. any part of the body; or
2. any physical object connected with the body.
An offense under this section is a Class A Misdemeanor

Did You Know…
- Vehicle burglaries occur most often on holidays, such as Christmas and Thanksgiving
- The hours between 7 p.m. and 6 a.m. account for the majority of vehicle burglaries in apartment complexes and single family residences.

Be Aware of Burglary Methods and Locations

Entry methods:
- Break glass
- Left unlocked
- Pried/Jimmied
- Windows rolled down or half rolled down
- Window vents
- Sliding windows (mainly trucks)
- Sunroofs
- Convertibles

Most Common Points of Entry:
- Side and rear windows
- Side door

High Risk Areas:
- Apartments
- Single family residences
- Dorms
- Shopping centers
- Restaurants
- Parks
- Bars

Suspicious Actions:
- Pulling door handles
- Looking in windows
- Odd clothing for the time of year (e.g., long coats or gloves being worn in the summer)
- Lookouts
- Nervous looking (looking all around moving slowly or quickly)
- Checking alarms by bumping or hitting the windows or bumpers for sensitivity