

21 Things a Burglar Won't Tell You

1. I have a job, just like you do. I work M-F, 9am-3pm. I like to stop by when you are likely at work, picking up or dropping of your kids, or running errands.
2. Breaking into your house is risky, but it yields the greatest rewards.
3. Of course I look familiar. I was just here last week cleaning your carpets, painting your shutters, or delivering your new refrigerator.
4. Hey, thanks for letting me use your bathroom when I was working in your yard last week. While I was there, I unlatched the back window to make my return a little easier.
5. Love those flowers. That tells me you have taste....and taste means there are nice things inside. Those yard toys your kids always leave out make me wonder what type of gaming system you have inside.
6. Yes, I really do look for newspapers piled up on the driveway. I might also leave a flyer in your front door to see how long it takes you to remove it.
7. If it snows while you are out of town, get a neighbor to create car and foot tracks into the house. Virgin snow drifts in the driveway are a dead giveaway.
8. If decorative glass is part of your front entrance, don't let your alarm company install the control pad where I can see if it is set, that makes it too easy.
9. A good security company alarms the window over the sink and the windows on the second floor, which often access the master bedroom and your jewelry. It's not a bad idea to put motion detectors up there also.
10. It's raining, you're fumbling with your umbrella, and you forget to lock your door – it's understandable; but understand this: I don't take a day off because of bad weather.
11. I always knock first. If you answer, I'll ask for directions somewhere or offer to clean your gutters, don't take me up on it.
12. Do you really think I won't look in your sock drawer? I always check dresser drawers, the bedside table, and the medicine cabinet.
13. Helpful hint: I almost never go into kids rooms.
14. You're right: I won't have enough time to break into that safe where you keep your valuables. But if the safe isn't bolted down and not too heavy, I'll take it.
15. A loud TV or radio can be a better deterrent than the best alarm system. If you are reluctant to leave your TV on while you are not home, you can buy a device that works on a timer and simulates the flickering glow of a real television (faketv.com)
16. Sometimes I carry a clipboard and dress like a lawn guy and carry a rake. I do my best to never, ever look like a burglar.
17. The two things I hate most: Nosy neighbors and loud dogs.
18. I'll break a window to get in. If your neighbor hears a loud sound, they will stop and wait to hear it again. If they don't hear anything again, they will just go back to what they are doing – it's just human nature.
19. I'm not complaining, but why would you pay all that money for a fancy alarm system and leave your house without setting it?
20. Avoid announcing your vacation on your facebook page. It's easier than you think to look up your address.
21. To you, leaving your window open, just a crack during the day is a way to let a little fresh air in. To me, it's an invitation.
22. If you don't answer the door when I knock, I might try the door. Occasionally, I hit the jackpot and walk right in.