

HOW TO GIVE A THIEF A HARD TIME

- ☞ Lock your car and pocket the keys.
- ☞ Park with front wheels turned sharply to the right or left making it difficult for the professional thief to tow your car away.
- ☞ With front wheel drive, when you park pull on the emergency brake and place your vehicle in park. If you have a stick shift, pull on the emergency brake and shift into forward or reverse gear. All four wheels will be locked making it difficult for a thief to tow your car.
- ☞ Close all windows, lock all doors.
- ☞ Put packages or valuables out of sight - cell phones, iPads, cash, wallets, purses and other expensive items in view invite theft.
- ☞ Activate any theft deterrent device you may have.
- ☞ Park in well-lighted area.
- ☞ If you park in a commercial lot or garage, leave only the ignition key with the attendant. Retain all others. Make sure that your key number does not appear on the key you leave.
- ☞ Keep license and registration in your wallet or purse. If left in car, thieves can use these documents to sell your car or to impersonate you when they are challenged by police.
- ☞ Owners who leave keys, titles and other identifiable material in their vehicles often return to their residence only to find that they are victims of burglary.
- ☞ If you have a garage, use it. Lock both the vehicle and the garage.

THEFT DETERRENT DEVICES: Theft deterrent devices create delays and buy time. The more time it takes a thief to steal a car the more obvious he becomes, the more likely he is to be discouraged and the more likely he is to be caught.

Anti-theft devices are designed to make the theft of your vehicle more difficult, some by interrupting the fuel or electrical system, others by sound or light alarms and still others by locking the hood, brakes, door or steering. Numerous devices are available.

Many owners, however, prefer to install their own theft deterrent devices. These are unique and give added protection since their operation is unfamiliar to both amateur and professional thieves.

Unfortunately, a professional thief given significant latitude in time can steal almost any vehicle.