

- Maintain recent photographs of your children. The photographs should display a clear view of the child's head.
- If you have children entering the home alone, teach them not to enter the home if the door is ajar, if a strange car is in the driveway, or if something else does not seem right. Tell them where they need to go if this situation occurs.
- Instruct your children to:
- Never leave home without telling you where they will be and who will accompany them.
- Travel in pairs or small groups.
- Avoid isolated areas.
- Use locally approved play areas where recreational activities are supervised by responsible adults and where police protection is readily available.
- Refuse automobile rides from strangers and refuse to accompany strangers anywhere on foot even if the strangers say mom or dad sent them, or said it was "okay." Children should similarly be aware of strangers offering gifts or food or using small animals to get them into a vehicle.
- Report immediately to the nearest person of authority (parent, teacher, or police) anyone who attempts to talk to or touch them in any way that makes them feel uncomfortable or scared.
- Never give information about family members over the phone, e.g., parent's occupation, names, or future family plans and dates.
- Screen phone calls through voice mail to avoid answering calls from strangers.

#### Security Precautions When You are Away

- Leave the house with a lived-in look (for example, cut the grass and trim hedges before leaving).
- Stop deliveries of newspapers and mail or forward them to a trusted neighbor's home.
- Mail can also be held at the post office.
- Do not leave notes on doors or indicate the length of absence on telephone voicemail or electronic mail account.

- Do not hide keys outside the house.
- Use a timer to turn lights on and off at varying times and locations.
- Consider leaving the radio and lights on.
- Hide valuables.
- Notify the police or a trusted neighbor of your absence.
- Ask a trusted friend or neighbor to check the residence periodically.

#### Vehicle Safety

- Always lock your car.
- Park your car in well-lighted areas. Do not leave your car on the street overnight, if possible.
- Check for suspicious persons before exiting the vehicle. If in doubt, drive away.
- Leave only the ignition key with the parking attendant, not residential keys. Use a "valet key" if available.
- Do not leave garage doors open or unlocked.
- Use a remote garage door opener if available. Enter and exit your car in the security of the closed garage. Remove the garage door opener if the car is left with a service or repair shop.
- Avoid displaying decals identifying the owner as a military member.
- Make a habit of checking the vehicle and surrounding area before using your vehicle. If you find something out of the ordinary, **DO NOT TOUCH IT**. Contact the local authorities to report your findings.
- Consider varying routes to work and home and avoid late-night travel when possible.
- Consider carrying a cell phone in your vehicle.
- Plan your route and pre-plan alternative routes in case of emergency. Avoid isolated roads or dark alleys when possible.
- Know the location of all emergency services along your route.

## Home and Family Security Tips

The following Home and Family Security tips are provided by the U.S. Army Criminal Investigation Command (USACIDC).

Always Ready, Always Alert  
Because someone is depending on you



**U.S. ARMY**

You and your family members should always practice basic personal security precautions. Familiarize your family with the local terrorist and criminal threat and regularly review the protective measures and techniques listed below. Ensure everyone in your family knows what to do in case of emergency.

The Joint Staff Antiterrorism Electronic Library contains additional resources and planning guides that you may find helpful. The website is available here:

<http://jko.jten.mil/courses/atll/courseFiles/resources/AntiterrorismElectronicLibrary.html>

### Cyber Safety Information:

- OPSEC On the Cyber Home Front:

[http://www.cid.army.mil/documents/CCIU/2can/2CAN%200023-07%20\(Cyber%20OPSEC\).pdf](http://www.cid.army.mil/documents/CCIU/2can/2CAN%200023-07%20(Cyber%20OPSEC).pdf)

- Social Networking Safety Tips:

<http://www.cid.army.mil/documents/CCIU/2can/SocialNetworkingSafetyTips.pdf>



Facebook

<http://www.cid.army.mil/documents/CCIU/2can/CCPFFacebook.pdf>



Twitter

<http://www.cid.army.mil/documents/CCIU/2can/CPFFTtwitter.pdf>



LinkedIn

<http://www.cid.army.mil/documents/CCIU/2can/CCPFLinkedIn.pdf>



Google +

<http://www.cid.army.mil/documents/CCIU/2can/CCPFGooglePlus.pdf>

### Tips for the Family at Home

- Restrict the possession of house keys. Change locks if keys are lost or stolen and when moving into a previously occupied residence.
- Lock all entrances at night, including the garage. Keep the house locked, even if you are at home.
- Destroy all envelopes or other items that show your name, rank, or other personal information. Remove names and rank from mailboxes.
- Maintain friendly relations with your neighbors.
- Do not draw attention to yourself; be considerate of neighbors.
- Keep yourself informed via media and the Internet regarding potential threats.
- Develop an emergency plan and an emergency kit, including a flashlight, battery-operated radio, first-aid kit including latex gloves, and copies of important personal documents including key points of contact.



### Be Suspicious

- Be alert to public works crews and other individuals requesting access to your residence; check their identities through a peephole and always contact the parent company to verify employee status before allowing entry.
- Be cautious about peddlers and strangers, especially those offering free samples. Do not admit salespersons or poll takers into your home.
- Watch for unfamiliar vehicles cruising or parked frequently in the area, particularly if one or more occupants remain in the vehicle for extended periods.
- Write down license plate numbers, makes, models, and colors of suspicious vehicles.

- Note descriptions of occupants.
- Report any suspicious videotaping or photography or unusual accommodation requests.
- Report any unattended bags or objects.
- Treat with suspicion any inquiries from strangers concerning the whereabouts or activities of family members.
- Report all suspicious activity to military police, security forces, or local law enforcement as appropriate.

### Telephone Security

- Post emergency numbers on the telephone and pre-program phone numbers where possible.
  - Military Police/Security Forces:
  - Local Police:
  - Fire Department:
  - Hospital:
  - Ambulance:
- Do not answer your telephone with your name and rank.
- Report all threatening phone calls to security officials and the telephone company.
- Attempt to ascertain any pertinent information about the caller, including background noise, accent, nationality, or location.

### Special Precautions Concerning Children

- Never leave young children alone or unattended. Be certain children are in the care of a trustworthy person.
- If it is necessary to leave appropriately aged children at home (consistent with local laws and any additional command guidance), keep the house well lighted and notify a trusted neighbor.
- Instruct children to keep doors and windows locked and to not allow strangers inside.
- Teach children how to contact the police or neighbor in an emergency.
- Ensure children know where and how to contact parents at all times.