

# NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH

**ISSUE #2**

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 DraperCityPD

 @DraperCityPD

## Locks

In 2017, according to the Bureau of Justice Statistics, 20.6 residential burglaries occurred for every 1,000 households. In 2011, there were 27.6 residential burglaries for every 1,000 households. There has been a steady decrease in burglaries over the decades. This decrease is due, in part, because we lock our doors at night and when we leave our domiciles regardless of the length of our departure. Advancements in the locksmith and door construction have no doubt helped with the decreasing number of residential burglaries. Investing in good locks, well constructed door frames, and sturdy secure doors are extra layers of security to keep burglars out of your house. A good lock can only keep a bandit out of your home if it is used – lock your doors.

For clarification, burglary as defined by the State of Utah is:

- (1) An actor is guilty of burglary who enters or remains unlawfully in a building or any portion of a building with intent to commit: (a) a felony; (b) theft; (c) an assault on any person; (d) lewdness; (e) sexual battery; (f) lewdness involving a child; or (g) voyeurism.
- (2) Burglary is a third degree felony unless it was committed in a dwelling, in which event it is a second degree felony.
- (3) A violation of this section is a separate offense from any of the offenses listed in Subsections (1)(a) through (g), and which may be committed by the actor while in the building.

Gone are the days, or at least I hope, of the hollow core doors with a key-in-knob lock. Today's standard is a solid door made of wood, metal, or fiberglass. The door itself can be ornate or drab but the main concern for security is the strength of the doorjamb and strike plate. Therefore, regardless of strength of material of the door or grade level of the lock, breaching the door is due to the doorjamb splitting near the strike plate of the lock. High-quality strike plates and deadbolts can make a solid-core door more resistant to being kicked in or "shouldered". Granted, the likelihood of someone going door-to-door with a battering ram is slim, yet the most common methods of forced entry can be thwarted by using Grade 1 locks and a strike plate properly attached to the door frame. More on the grading system later.



## Door Lock Types

Door locks are separated into two categories—conventional, non-connected deadbolts, and smart locks. It is up to the homeowner to choose which lock suits them. Here is a brief explanation of the two types of locks.

### Conventional Deadbolts

These models do not offer fancy features, but they can keep your doors secure. They range from high-end, drill-proof models to inexpensive deadbolts. All of them are single-cylinder locks, and a few models can be rekeyed without the need to hire a locksmith.

## JUST A NOTE:

We have concluded our contract with ICE BlackBox. We will be removing the Neighborhood Watch street signs bearing the ICE BlackBox logo. New Neighborhood Watch signs will be installed at no cost. This transition will start mid-February and may take as long as 3 weeks to complete. The smart phone app is of no value.

## Apple iCloud Scam Call

Have you received a call from Apple informing you of a breach in your iCloud account?

**Ignore it.** Apple will not call you to tell you about problems with your account. Sometimes you may receive an email if someone attempts to use your account, so hover over the sender's email address to confirm their identity. If the email is a combination of letters or numbers or from an account seeming to have nothing to do with Apple (or Microsoft), delete it. If you are genuinely concerned about your account's safety, contact Apple yourself using the phone numbers listed on their official website.

800notes.com is a good online source to validate this type of calls as to bogus or legitimate calls.

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Conventional Deadbolt

## Conventional Locks con'd

**Pros:** Models are affordable and often re-keyable. Deadbolts significantly improve security over key-in-knob locks alone.

**Cons:** They lack the convenience and extra features of smart models.

## Smart Locks



In-Knob

Smart locks are a fav among the tech savvy. Some models do more than lock doors, offering remote control, voice control, access logs, geofencing (technology to create a virtual geographic boundary, enabling software to trigger a response when a mobile device enters or leaves a particular area), and other smart features. A separate WiFi hub or bridge is required to transmit the signal from the lock to your wireless router. Some models completely replace your existing deadbolt, and others convert existing deadbolts into smart locks.

**Pros:** These models add convenience and—with optional WiFi connectivity—peace of mind through remote control, access logs, and other smart features.

**Cons:** These locks are susceptible to forced entry as non-connected (not connected to WiFi) locks, and potentially vulnerable to digital hacks. They require extra hardware for remote features and are more expensive than conventional deadbolt locks. Smart Locks with the remote access requires the use of some sort of WiFi bridge, at an additional cost. (Smart locks have no WiFi built in because the chips are too power-hungry for the AA batteries that typically power them.)



Smart Lock

## Grades

The first step in choosing locks is understanding the grading system put into place by the American National Standards Institute (ANSI). Regardless of conventional or smart locks, high-security locks have hardened cylinders, unique pin configurations, and other defenses. Industry rankings, Grades 1 to 3, with Grade 1 locks being the most difficult to disable. A word to the wise: lock packages may not display grade level information, so you might have to check the company website to ascertain how the lock is rated.

### Grade 1

This is the highest level of ANSI grades for door locks and is typically reserved for locks intended for commercial security. These are commercial grade locks and deadbolts that can be used in some residential applications. In order to attain this grade, a door knob must withstand 800-thousand cycles, six door strikes and a 360-pound weight test. A deadbolt rated as Grade 1 must be able to withstand 250-thousand cycles and 10 door strikes with a hammer.

### Grade 2

These locks are not expected to be as heavy-duty as Grade 1 and are not appropriate for many commercial applications. Described as meeting "light commercial" requirements, Grade 2 locks also exceed most apartment building requirements and typical residential requirements. This means Grade 2 locks are not quite strong enough to be used on most businesses, but offer more protection than you should need at home.



Key Lock Box

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If you would like more information on any of the material mentioned in this month's newsletter, contact Draper's Neighborhood Watch Specialist at 801.576.6342.

### Grade 3

Ranked the lowest grade of locks awarded by the ANSI, do not assume these locks are low quality. These locks are most commonly used in apartment buildings as they meet most residential building requirements. They are not as secure as Grade 2 locks and not recommended for use on your main entry point, but could be used adequately on secondary entry points, such the man-door in a garage.

### Keyed Deadbolts

**Single-cylinder deadbolts** require a key to unlock from the outside but unlock with a small knob or thumb turn on the inside. Not practical if the door has glass that can be broken to allow operation of the knob from the outside. This design allows unlocking a door and exiting your home more quickly in the event of an emergency as locating the key is not necessary.



Single-cylinder

**Double-cylinder deadbolts** require a key to unlock from the outside **and** the inside. They improve security if the door has glass near the lock, but they can take longer to unlock. If you use a double-cylinder deadbolt, keep a key in a designated location for easy access in an emergency

### Things to Think About

Regardless of the lock installed on your doors, many locks include short screws that catch only the jamb and not the framing of the house. The kick-in resistance of most locks improves dramatically when the stock strike plate screws are replaced with 3-inch screws.

- For added security, hinges should also be secured with 3-inch screws assuring the screws are in the frame.
- Door and doorjamb **security hardware kits** strengthen vulnerable areas of a door and door frame, making it more difficult for an intruder to kick in the door.
- **Door viewers**, sometimes called peepholes, are sets of lenses installed in an exterior door to give you a wide-angle view of the outside. Peepholes are a must whether it be conventional or a digital camera peephole.
- Entry through an **unlocked door** can be easy. In an apartment complex, a burglar can simply walk through a long hallway checking doorknobs.
- Hidden spare key? Burglars know all the usual hiding places. Give a spare key to a trusted neighbor or use a Key Lock Box.



Double Cylinder



Door Hardware

The Draper Police Department cannot advocate one product over another. We do recommend you inspect your locks, strike plates, screws, and hinges for weaknesses. Please, research locks, deadbolts, peepholes, and door-jamb hardware kits on the market. Should you discover any weaknesses in doors, upgrade the security of your door. And lastly, lock your doors whether you are home or not, because you just never know.



Traditional Peephole



Digital Peephole