Did You Know?

A vehicle is stolen
every 45 seconds
in the United States and
every 40 minutes

Each year,
almost 700,000 vehicles
are stolen in the United States and
over 13,000 vehicles

50%
of the stolen vehicles had the keys
inside the vehicle.

60%
of the vehicles stolen were
left unlocked.

95%

66%
of vehicle thefts occur
at night.

22%
of all stolen vehicles

The Key to Preventing Theft Is In Your Hands

Lock Your Car
Take Your Key
Use an Anti-Theft Device

Participate in the

MARYLAND VEHICLE THEFT PREVENTION COUNCIL

"YOU HOLD THE KEY" LOCK OUT CAR THEFT
MARYLAND VEHICLE THEFT PREVENTION COUNCIL

MARYLAND
"Watch Your Car" Program

MARYLAND
Vehicle Theft Prevention Council
1201 Reisterstown Road
Pikesville, MD 21208
1-800-96-THEFT

www.MDAutoTheft.org

'Jump-In' Thefts

The Key to Preventing Theft

MARYLAND VEHICLE THEFT PREVENTION COUNCIL

"YOU HOLD THE KEY"

Lawrence J. Hogan, Governor
Boyd K. Rutherford, Lt. Governor

MDAutoTheft.org

Preventing Vehicle Theft Is Easier Than You Think!

A thief doesn't like to be seen, or heard or delayed. That's why they take the easy route. Is your vehicle a potential target?

To make your vehicle a tougher target, use the **"Layer Approach"** to vehicle theft prevention. The more layers you use, the tougher it will be for a thief to steal your vehicle.

Layer 1
Common Sense

The Common Sense approach is the simplest and most cost-effective way to thwart thieves. Here are the basics of the Common Sense approach:

- lock your car
- take your keys
- **NEVER** leave your car unattended and running
- park in well-lighted areas
- close your car windows completely
- don't leave valuables in plain view
- don't hide spare keys in/on the car
- keep your registration card with you
- park your car with the wheels turned towards the curb
- rear wheel drive vehicles should be backed into a driveway
- front wheel drive vehicles should be parked front end first in a driveway
- if you have a garage, use it and lock it
- use public parking for short durations

Layer 2
Visible and Audible Deterrents

There are many devices designed to alert thieves that your car is protected, such as:

- audible alarms
- steering wheel locks
- brake pedal locks
- steering column collars
- theft deterrent decals - Maryland "Watch Your Car" program
- tire locks
- window etching

LOCK YOUR CAR AND TAKE THE KEYS

MARYLAND "Watch Your Car" Program

Layer 3
Vehicle Immobilizers

Vehicle Immobilizers prevent thieves from bypassing the ignition and hot-wiring your car. Examples of these devices include:

- smart keys
- fuse cut offs
- kill switches
- starter, ignition and fuel disablers

Layer 4
Tracking Systems

These high-tech devices are designed to be hidden in your vehicle and, when activated, will emit a signal that the police can monitor and use to locate your vehicle.

Don't let this happen to your car. Protect your investment from theft by employing the "Four Layer Approach."

Learn more about Vehicle Theft Prevention at www.MDAutoTheft.org