



Victim Services

Nelson Police Department & Nelson RCMP

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VEHICLE SECURITY

Most thefts from vehicles are opportunistic and therefore preventable. Thieves look for quick and easy opportunity. You can prevent theft from your vehicle by following some of our easy suggestions:

- Remove all valuables. This includes cash, loose change, cameras, credit and debit cards, cigarettes, cigarette lighters, sunglasses, work tools, old CD's, cell phones, cameras, clothing and any personal identification.
- Remove portable accessories. Remove stereo face plates and either take them with you or lock them in the trunk to deter would be thieves. Always remove personal electronics – GPS, tablets, laptops, iPods, stereo equipment and charging cords. If someone can see it, they could steal it.
- Do not leave your vehicle running and unattended. Lock your car and roll up your windows. Take your keys with you and remove your spare set of keys too. If you have a keyless entry lock change your pass code frequently or at least every 6 months.
- Park safely. If you have a garage use it and lock your car within the locked garage. If you have to park outside or at the mall or at work, try and park in a well-lit open area.
- Don't leave your garage door opener in your vehicle – take it with you. Consider upgrading to a garage door entry app or a smart wifi wireless garage door remote.
- Buy and use a "club" – a steering locking device. Use it every time you leave your vehicle. A well secured vehicle may deter would be criminals and prevent theft of your vehicle.
- Consider installing an alarm, a vehicle immobilizer or an after-market tracking device – GPS system. Even if you have an alarm never leave items of value in your vehicle. An experienced thief can smash a window, grab valuable items and be gone in seconds, before your alarm is even activated. Alarms deter theft of your car.

Below you will find some excellent Canadian websites – with further detailed information on how to secure your vehicle and prevent theft as much as possible.

- ICBC- Preventing Auto Crime
<https://www.icbc.com/road-safety/prevent-autocrime>
- Insurance Bureau of Canada
<https://www.ibc.ca/stay-protected/theft-prevention/end-auto-theft>

- BC RCMP- Prevent Theft From and of Vehicles
<https://bc-cb.rcmp-grc.gc.ca/ViewPage.action?siteNodeId=2080&languageId=1&contentId=26190>
- New Car Dealers Association of BC
<https://www.newcardealers.ca/auto-blog/preventing-vehicle-theft/>
- Block Watch Society of BC
<https://blockwatch.com/>

If you would like further assistance to discuss safety and security on your vehicle, please contact Nelson Police Department Victim Services at 250-505-5657 or visit the website at www.nelsonpolice.ca