Rutgers Off-Campus Housing Service
Home Security Checklist

This Home Security Checklist is intended as a guide for assessing your home’s security measures. Checking an item “No,” could indicate an area in need of attention.

This checklist is intended for use as an aid only and is not all-inclusive.

Exterior Doors
Doors are solid hardwood or metal-clad and have working, keyed locks and deadbolts ......................................................... Yes ☐ No ☐
Doors have peepholes at heights everyone can use ......................... Yes ☐ No ☐
There are no glass panels in or near doors unless they are reinforced so that they cannot be shattered to unlock doors ................................. Yes ☐ No ☐
Spare keys are kept with a trusted neighbor, not hidden under a doormat or planter ................................................................. Yes ☐ No ☐
Doors leading from the garage or basement to the house are solid wood or metal-clad and have working keyed locks and deadbolts......... Yes ☐ No ☐
Sliding glass doors have strong working keyed locks; dowels or pins have been installed to prevent the doors from being shoved aside or lifted off the track ................................................................. Yes ☐ No ☐

ALL DOORS SHOULD BE LOCKED AT ALL TIMES – NOT JUST WHEN YOU LEAVE THE HOUSE

Windows
All windows in the house including those in the basement and garage have working keyed locks or are securely pinned ............................ Yes ☐ No ☐
Windows can always be locked even when opened a few inches for ventilation .............................................................................. Yes ☐ No ☐

ALL WINDOWS SHOULD BE LOCKED AT ALL TIMES – NOT JUST WHEN YOU LEAVE THE HOUSE
**Outdoor Security**

Trees and plants are trimmed so that there is no place for someone to hide.................................................................................................................. Yes ☐ No ☐

There are no dark areas around the house, garage, or yard to hide prowlers........................................................................................................... Yes ☐ No ☐

Doors and windows are visible to neighbors or to the street ................. Yes ☐ No ☐

Porch lights illuminate all entrances to the home and light bulbs are protected to prevent breakage or tampering.............................................. Yes ☐ No ☐

Motion-sensor lights are in use outside .................................................... Yes ☐ No ☐

The house number is clearly displayed so that police and emergency vehicles can find the house quickly ......................................................... Yes ☐ No ☐

Gates, garages, and shed doors are locked at all times ......................... Yes ☐ No ☐

Bicycles are secured with a U-bar lock to an immoveable object .......... Yes ☐ No ☐

Cars are locked at all times ..................................................................... Yes ☐ No ☐