



**Summertime Crime in
“Secured” Parking
Garages
Don’t become another
victim!**

The Seattle Police Department has noted an increase in thefts from Apartment and Condominium Parking Garages. In the majority of these crimes, the burglar(s) did not need to force their way into the garage, but rather “piggybacked” in through the pedestrian door or “tailgating” followed a car into the garage.

In addition to prowling cars in the garage, bicycles and storage units are also targeted.

These thefts are crimes of opportunity that take very little time to commit.

They are expensive, inconvenient and aggravating for victims.

Many can be prevented through consistency; awareness; and access control!

BE CONSISTENT

- Security garages are only secure if entering and exiting drivers take a few seconds to watch the door fully close behind them every time.
- Before entering/exiting a garage, look around. Is anyone hanging out near the entrance? Pay attention to them and let them know they’ve been seen.
- Remote controls for security garages should never be left inside parked vehicles. They provide future access to returning thieves.
- Remove all valuables from your vehicle every time you park.
- Disable internal trunk releases per your owner’s manual instructions.
- Audible alarms or other theft deterrent devices can be effective.
- Invest in heavy-duty locks for your storage unit door and/or bicycle. Burglars often bring bolt cutters to work!
- Share information about incidents and suspicious activity with your neighbors .

BE OBSERVANT

Report all crimes and suspicious activity to **911 immediately**.



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