

## Model Home Protection

Model homes represent the builder's illustration of construction excellence. In addition to their showcasing features, they also frequently act as a sales or construction office. Though the model is usually furnished with expensive household goods, the sales or construction office contains items including: data processing equipment, telephone systems, facsimiles, valuable documents, records, etc. In order to adequately protect the model, and its contents, from a variety of perils, the following preventative measures are suggested:

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**Central station burglar alarm system.** Considered the most effective means of theft protection, centrally monitored systems are usually made available, as an option to new homeowners within the subdivision. As the focal point of the subdivision, the model can serve as an example of home safety and security. To provide the greatest degree of security, the system should incorporate perimeter devices with strategically positioned infrared motion detectors.

**Fire alarm system.** Often overlooked, fire is the single most destructive peril. Early detection and response is essential in minimizing damage potential. Once security wiring is installed, heat and/or smoke detectors can be easily integrated into the security system circuitry. The sensing devices must be "hard wired" for optimum benefit.

**Physical protection.** Protection of openings is the first line of defenses in home security. Suggested hardware includes: double cylinder deadlocks for entry doors; cam locks for windows; and padlocked guide tracks for garage doors.

**Illumination.** Interior and exterior lighting can be utilized as an effective burglary deterrent, particularly when combined with sound physical protection hardware. Authorities encourage the use of strategically positioned exterior flood lights activated by integrated motion sensing devices. The startling effect of unexpected visibility often quickly discourages attempts of illegal entry. Keeping interior lights on at night through the use of timers, is also recommended.

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