

Norfolk Police Department's Stolen Vehicle Tips

- Lock your car and take your keys with you even when parked in your driveway.
- Do not hide a spare key on the vehicle
- Motion-sensor lights mounted over the garage will discourage thieves and alert you to the presence of unwanted "visitors" at night. Inside your home, these devices can even be wired to set off an audio alarm.
- Park in a well-lighted area, close to a corner with foot-traffic. To make your vehicle more easily visible, back into the parking space, and, if possible park at the end of the row and toward the light source
- Roll up the windows completely.
- Remove keys from ignition.
- Avoid leaving a vehicle parked unattended in a public parking lot for a long time.
- When parking in attended lots or parking garages, leave only the ignition key with the attendant. Older-model vehicle keys and other attached keys could be duplicated.
- Make sure the attendant or valet is actually the authorized attendant. Never have a tag with your name/address on the key ring.
- Place valuables out of sight.
- If you have a garage, use it. Vehicles are least safe parked at the curb, more safe in the driveway and most safe in the garage.
- Lock your garage door.
- Do not leave your car running while it is unattended.
- Do not leave the car title in the vehicle. Doing so makes it easy for the thief to sell the car.
- Etch VIN number on windshields, and write it in crayon under the hood and trunk. Also, print the VIN on some business cards and hide in a few locations in the unit: down door panels and behind seats.