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SOME ANTI-VEHICLE THEFT TIPS:

- 1) Lock your vehicle and roll up windows at all times when leaving it.
- 2) If you have a garage, use it and lock both your vehicle and the garage.
- 3) Take your keys out of the vehicle when you leave it, even in the garage.
- 4) Use anti-theft devices. Although not foolproof, the longer it takes to steal your car the more likely it won't be. Talk to your dealer or auto supply store for suggestions.
- 5) Keep packages and valuables out of sight. Always cover up or remove stereos, car phones and other expensive equipment.
- 6) Always park in well lit areas.
- 7) Don't leave spare keys in the car or in hiding spots. Experienced thieves know where to look.
- 8) Turn your wheels left or right when you park. This makes it more difficult to tow your car away.

One vehicle is stolen **every 20 seconds in Canada**. Stolen cars, vans, trucks, and motorcycles cost victims time, money, inconvenience and a rise in insurance premium costs. Stolen vehicles are often used to commit other crimes.



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AUTO THEFT

Don't make it easy for a thief to steal your wheels.

BASIC PREVENTION POLICY:

- Never leave your keys in the car or ignition.
- Always lock your car, even if it's in front of your home in town or in the country.
- Copy your license plate number and vehicle identification number (VIN) on a card. If possible, keep your driver's license and registration with you, not in your vehicle.
- Keep the keys to your home and car separate.
- Keep your car in good running condition. Make sure there's enough gas to get there and back.
- Avoid parking in isolated areas with little foot or auto traffic. Be especially alert in unstaffed lots and enclosed parking garages.
- If you think someone is following you, drive to the nearest police station or open service station to get help.
- Don't pick up hitchhikers. Don't hitchhike yourself.
- If you often drive at night, or alone, consider a cell phone to make it easier to summon help in an emergency.

ANTI-THEFT SYSTEMS:

Anti-theft systems typically include siren/audible alarms, starter disablers, motion sensors, remote control activation, panic buttons and shock detectors on doors, windows or trunk lids. A beeper can alert the owner when someone trips the system.

Many newer vehicles are equipped with a combination of anti-theft devices such as alarms, flashing lights, ignition kill switches, steering wheel locks, vehicle tracking devices etc.

Vehicle theft is a big and expensive problem. We all pay for stolen property.

It takes less time to steal a vehicle than it takes most people to unlock their car, put on their seat belt and start the engine. Chances are it will happen to you or someone you know.

More than 2/3 of all auto thefts take place at night, and over half occur in residential areas.

The thief who drives your vehicle away is 200 times more likely to have a serious accident with it than you are.

WHAT CAN YOU DO?

- Whether you leave your car for a minute or for several hours, roll up the windows, lock it, and take the key.
- Never leave valuables in the car.
- Park in a busy, well-lighted area.
- Purchase stereo components, CB's or cell phones that can be removed from their brackets and placed in a more secure location upon parking.

BE CAUTIOUS:

Don't think you can be careless about your car just because it is old or not running properly. Car thieves often make more money by dismantling a vehicle and selling the parts than by trying to sell it in one piece.

If your vehicle has been stolen contact the RCMP. The number for the Wetaskiwin Detachment is (780) 312-7200.
