

AUTO INSIGHTS



Auto and driver risk management tips provided by: The CIMA Companies, Inc

Did You Know?

Cars are probably the single most popular target of crime because they are relatively easy to steal. In the time it takes you to brush your teeth, a car is stolen in the United States. To put the brakes on vehicle theft, try the following prevention tips.

PREVENTING AUTO THEFT

Use these tips to reduce your risk:

- Never leave your car running and unattended.
- Never leave your keys in the car or ignition, even inside a locked garage.
- Always roll up your windows and lock the car, even if it is in front of your home.
- Always park in a high-traffic, well-lit area, if possible.
- Consider anti-theft devices such as steering wheel locks or fuel cut-off switches.
- If you park in a fee garage, take the pay-ticket with you.
- Have your vehicle identification number (VIN) etched into each piece of glass on the vehicle as a deterrent.
- Investigate the purchase of an auto alarm system if you live in a high-theft area or drive a theft-prone vehicle. Display an alarm decal near the door handle.
- If you use valet parking, leave just the ignition key with the attendant.
- Copy your license plate and VIN numbers on a card and keep them on you with your driver's license. If your vehicle is stolen, police will need this information promptly.

Safety First

According to the Insurance Information Institute, about one-third of a typical comprehensive auto insurance premium goes to pay for auto theft claims. Installing a mechanical device that locks to the steering wheel, column or brake pedal to prevent the wheel from being turned more than a few degrees can act as a highly visible physical deterrent if installed properly.

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