



Media Release

Keep a cool head as the days begin to heat up

September 2005 – With the warmer months fast approaching, ADT Security is urging homeowners to be security conscious as the temperature climbs and residents let down their guard.

Homeowners are more likely to leave their windows open to let in the cool air and generally become more relaxed about the safety and security of their home throughout the summer holiday period. This can lead to an increase in break-ins and a loss of valuable items.

“A recent survey¹ conducted by ADT has shown that over a third (33%) of Australian households have admitted to not even having basic security measures such as window or door deadlocks, with Sydney alone reporting 27% of households not secure,” said Ian Milne, ADT’s Managing Director.

Despite the fact that almost a quarter of households have reported experiencing some form of crime in the past two years, Australians continue to be complacent and are not implementing basic security measures around their home.

“It’s very worrying that Australians regard household security as such a low priority. Almost half of survey respondents stated they feel there is little they can do to prevent a break-in. This negative attitude must change to stop needless crimes being committed,” said Mr Milne.

Simple and effective actions can be taken to decrease the risk of a burglary throughout the summer months. ADT, the world’s largest electronic security company, provides the following tips to help homeowners protect their family, feel secure within their property, and ensure that whilst away from their home, it is being well protected.

¹ The findings are based on a survey of 895 household decision-makers aged 18 and over through-out Queensland, NSW, Victoria and WA, commissioned by ADT and conducted by Q2 Strategic Research.

Key Tips on Home Security:

- Install an alarm system to give yourself peace of mind when your premises are unoccupied;
- Purchase a security system that is clearly visible when installed;
- Consider having your alarm system monitored by a security company so that when your alarm is triggered, you will be notified instantly;
- Keep gardens trimmed so that they do not offer camouflage for burglars;
- Don't leave spare keys in obvious places;
- Keep doors, windows and pathways well lit at night;
- Keep windows and doors locked at night;
- Keep Christmas presents and other valuables out of sight;
- Lock side gates;
- Lock your meter box to prevent tampering with your home's power supply;
- Padlock garden sheds and garages;
- Put away garden tools and ensure ladders and wheelie bins are locked and secured to ensure they cannot be used to enter your home;
- Secure all windows with locks or security grills and not just when you leave the house;
- Plan ahead for holidays:
 - Install timer devices;
 - Cancel deliveries;
 - Cancel any magazine or newspaper subscriptions;
 - Alert your home security supplier;
 - Arrange for friends to clear your letterbox;
 - Ensure you remove any large amounts of cash/jewellery you have in your home;
 - Ensure that blinds and curtains are secured so that would-be thieves cannot see in your home.

- ENDS -

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Tyco Fire & Security

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ABOUT ADT

With over a century's worth of experience and providing electronic security solutions to over 8 million residential, commercial and retail customers worldwide, ADT is the world's largest security company. ADT's products include alarm systems and integrated security applications that link access control, CCTV, electronic article surveillance and source tagging systems.