

Safe & Sound: Protecting Your Home Inside & Out

Your home is your sanctuary, and keeping it safe should always be a top priority. Whether you're at home, traveling, or hosting guests or even contractors, it's important to take proactive steps to ensure your property and loved ones are protected from potential threats. In this guide, we've gathered practical, easy-to-implement tips to help you secure your home and feel confident knowing you've done everything possible to safeguard what matters most.

From simple daily habits to advanced security measures, Safe & Sound will equip you with the knowledge you need to prevent break-ins, keep your property secure, and take control of your safety. Let's dive into the essential steps to protect your home—inside and out!

General Home Security Tips

Securing your home begins with simple, everyday habits. These foundational steps help ensure that your property remains a safe and secure space.

Here are some must-know tips to get started:


- ✔ **Lock Up Properly:** Ensure all doors, windows, and gates are locked when leaving or going to bed.
- ✔ **Install Deadbolts:** Use high-quality deadbolts on exterior doors for added security.
- ✔ **Secure Sliding Doors and Windows:** Use additional locks or security bars to prevent easy access.
- ✔ **Use Motion-Activated Lights:** Install lights around the perimeter of your home to deter intruders.
- ✔ **Install a Ring or Doorbell Camera:** A doorbell camera not only allows you to see who is at your door, but it also provides a record of any visitors or suspicious activity. This added layer of security gives you peace of mind and can act as a deterrent for potential intruders.



When Traveling or Out of Town


Securing your home begins with simple, everyday habits. These foundational steps help ensure that your property remains a safe and secure space.

Here are some must-know tips to get started:




Hold Mail and Packages:

Arrange for the USPS to hold your mail or have a neighbor collect it. Consider using package delivery services with tracking to avoid leaving packages unattended.




Use Timers for Lights:

Set timers for lights to go on and off, making it look like someone is home.




Alert Trusted Neighbors:

Let a trusted neighbor know when you'll be away so they can keep an eye on your property.



Do Not Post Travel Plans Online:

Avoid sharing travel details on social media until you return home.



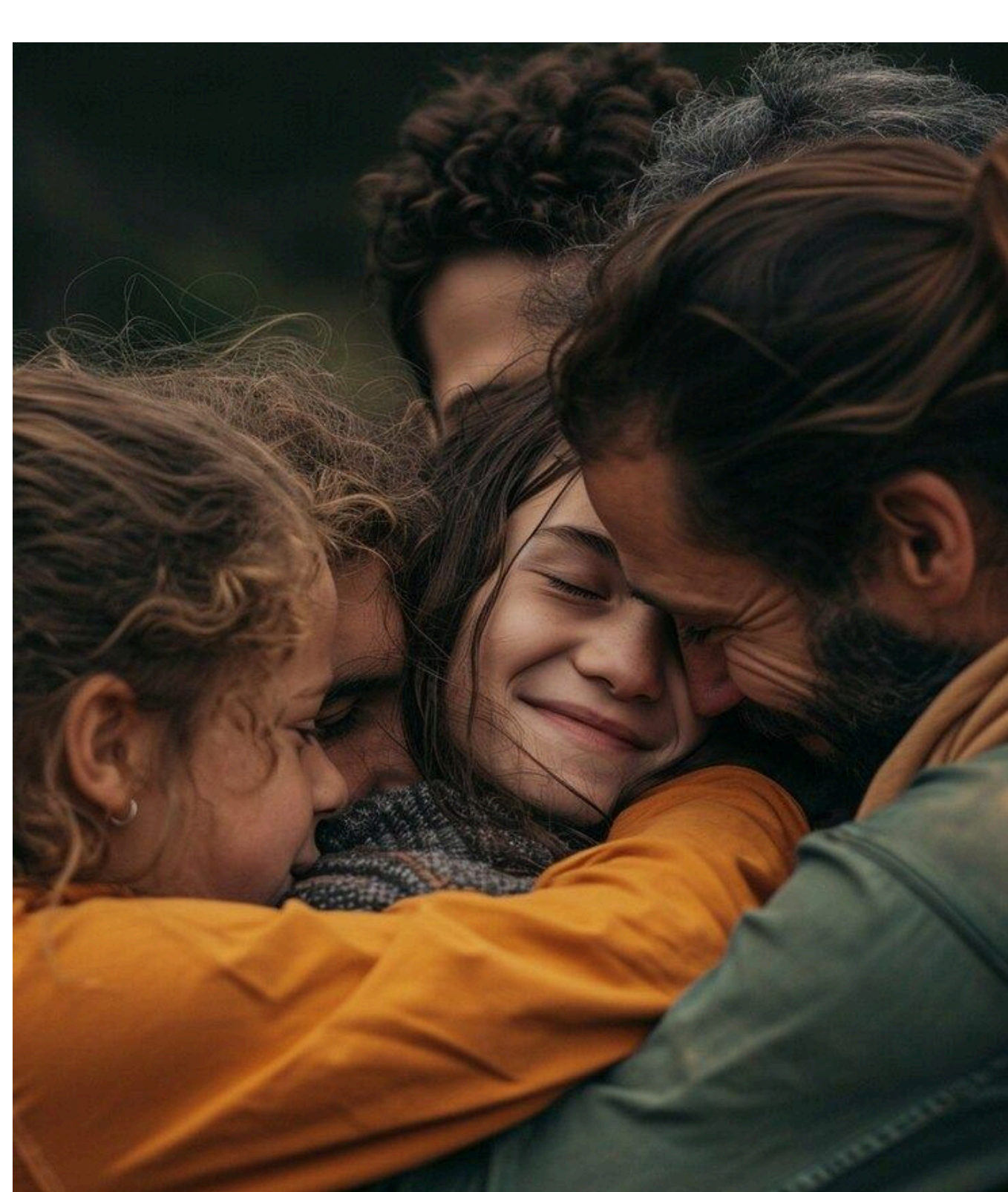
Unplug Electrical Items for Safety:

To prevent potential fire hazards while you're away, unplug electrical appliances like TVs, coffee makers, and other non-essential electronics. It's a simple step that adds an extra layer of safety to your home when you're not there.

Safety Tips for When You Have Visitors

Having guests over can be a wonderful experience, but it's essential to remain mindful of your security.

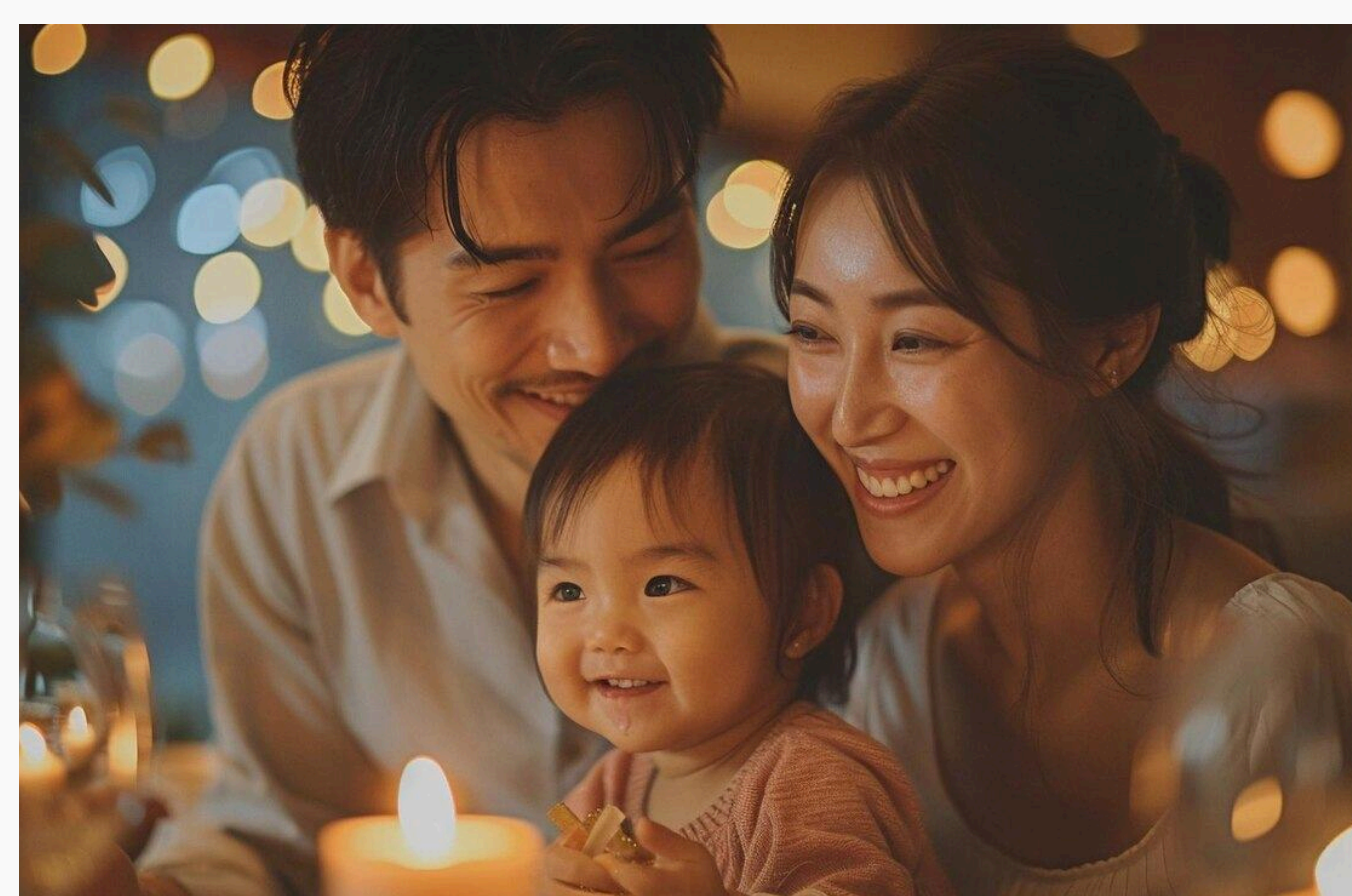
Here are some simple strategies to protect your home while hosting visitors:



- ✔ **Limit Access:** Don't give visitors access to the entire home. Keep certain rooms (like bedrooms) locked and off-limits.
- ✔ **Check ID for Service Workers:** Always verify the identification of service workers or contractors before letting them in.
- ✔ **Be Mindful of Who You Invite In:** Be cautious about the number of people you invite over and their backgrounds, especially if you don't know them personally.
- ✔ **Secure Valuables:** Keep valuable items, such as jewelry, electronics, and important documents, in a locked safe or secure area.
- ✔ **Ask Guests to Lock Up:** Remind visitors to secure doors behind them when entering or leaving your home.

Additional Security Measures

For those looking to take their home protection to the next level, these advanced security measures will offer extra peace of mind. Whether it's installing a security system or investing in smart technology, these steps add an extra layer of defense.



01

Install a Security System:

A monitored security system with cameras can deter thieves and alert authorities quickly in case of a break-in.

02

Use Smart Home Technology:

Smart locks, cameras, and doorbell systems help you monitor your home from anywhere.

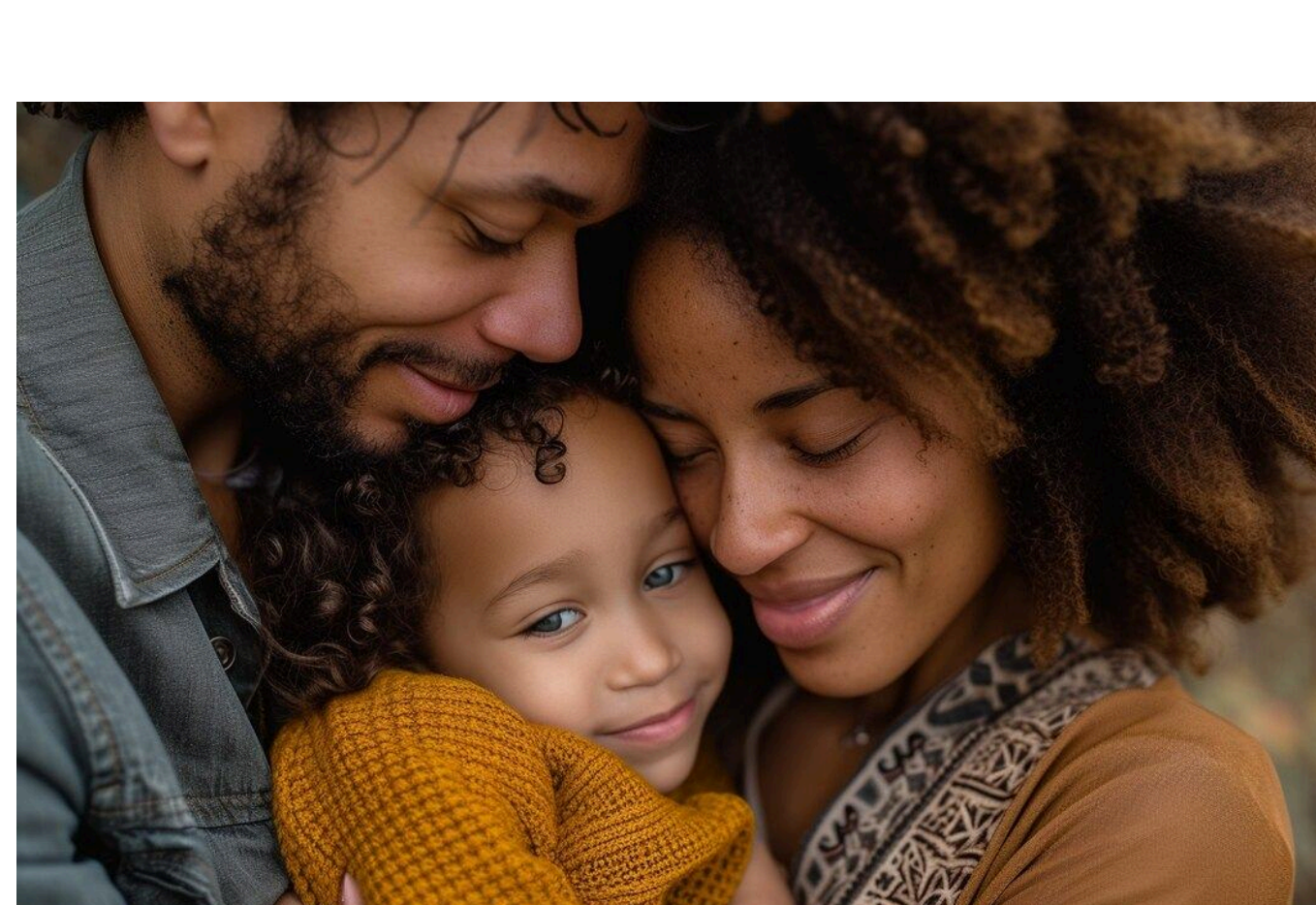
03

Get a Dog:

A dog, especially a guard dog, can be an excellent deterrent for potential intruders.

Reporting Suspicious Activity

Your instincts can be a powerful tool when it comes to home safety. If you notice something unusual or out of place, it's important to act quickly. These tips will guide you on when and how to report suspicious activity to the authorities.



- ✔ **Trust Your Instincts:** If something feels off, don't hesitate to contact local authorities.
- ✔ **Encourage Neighbors to Report:** Create a network in your neighborhood where everyone watches out for each other and shares information about suspicious occurrences.

By taking these simple yet effective steps, you can significantly reduce the risk of break-ins and theft, ensuring your home remains safe and secure. Whether you're at home, traveling, or hosting guests, proactive security measures make all the difference in protecting your property and loved ones.

At Silent Witness, we are dedicated to making our communities safer, one tip at a time. Remember, if you ever notice anything suspicious or have information that could help solve a crime, don't hesitate to report it. Your anonymity is protected, and your tip could help bring justice to a case. Together, we can build a safer, more secure community.