

SECURITY TIPS FOR OPEN HOMES

Open home inspections are designed to give potential buyers an opportunity to try a home on for size, but sometimes, unfortunately, they are also an opportunity for thieves.

Taking steps to remove that temptation and limit risk as much as possible will give you peace of mind and hopefully ensure your home and your family's possessions are safe while still welcoming potential buyers.

A property is not just a person's biggest asset, it's also their sanctuary, their escape from the world, so it pays to be vigilant.

If your home is on the market and you will be opening it for inspection, here are some top tips to help with security:

- Deal with an REIQ agent as we hold ourselves to industry best practice in all areas
- Ensure your agent uses a sign-in sheet for visitors and keeps accurate records
- Keep valuables, such as jewellery, out of sight and locked in safe or off-site
- Keep small electronic devices, such as the kids' iPads, phones, iPods, and chargers all hidden away
- If you have a home office, don't leave bills, or important documents such as passports, in view as this gives more access/insight into your world
- Discuss with your agent how they intend to manage access at the inspection to keep track of everyone coming and going and what is accessible and what is off limits
- Run through the lock-up procedure in detail with your agent or arrange to be back on closing so the home can be handed over to you

Discuss your concerns with your agent and prepare a security plan together so that nothing is left to chance.

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