# Vehicle Theft Prevention

Join the U.S. Department of Transportation’s National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) and the National Insurance Crime Bureau to help protect vehicle owners and their vehicles by providing information about vehicle security. A reminder: July is National Vehicle Theft Prevention Month — a good opportunity to increase vehicle theft prevention messaging.

## Talking Points

### Overview

* Vehicle theft is a multi-billion-dollar industry in the United States, disrupting millions of vehicle owners’ lives — stripping them of their security and mobility.
* Passenger cars make up most of the stolen vehicles, and summer months have the highest reported occurrences of vehicle thefts in the United States. NHTSA urges vehicle owners to take these steps to keep their vehicles — and any valuables inside them — safe all the time.
* Thieves can sometimes exploit advanced vehicle technology, but there are things you can do to reduce the risk of theft. The best strategy is a layered approach — each action adds a new obstacle for would-be thieves.

**How to Prevent Vehicle Theft**

* Park in well-lit areas.
* Close and lock all windows and doors when you park.
* Keep valuables out of sight, such as in the glove box or trunk.
* Do not leave your keys in your vehicle.
* Do not leave the area while your vehicle is running.
* Consider after-market anti-theft tools such as an alarm, steering wheel locks, GPS tracking devices, or vehicle recovery systems..

**Vehicle Theft Facts and Figures**

For more information on motor vehicle theft prevention, visit [NHTSA.gov/theft](https://www.nhtsa.gov/road-safety/vehicle-theft-prevention). For additional resources, visit [www.nicb.org/](https://www.nicb.org/).