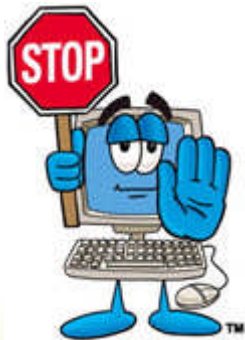


Keeping Valuables Safe:

Don't hide valuables in the bedroom. It is the first place burglars look. Burglars spend 15 minutes or less in each house that they break into. More than half that time is spent in the bedroom, checking the usual hiding places -- the underwear drawer...under the mattress...high closet shelves, etc.

Don't hide all your valuables in one place. A burglar is less likely to get everything if you put items in different places.



Information Sources:
<http://EzineArticles.com>
www.freemoneyfinance.com



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Protect Your Laptop



530-749-7777

"Building a Safe Community"



Thieves love laptops. Expensive, easy to hide and loads of information on them. More often than not, the information on a laptop is more valuable than the laptop itself and that is what the thief is going after. With over a million laptops lost or stolen each year, protecting the information stored on these mobile machines is vital. According to the FBI, less than 2% of the lost or stolen laptops are recovered.

So what happens to all of the information?

If you're lucky, nothing. The laptop gets wiped clean and sold for some quick cash. But in reality? Probably a lot. Just think for a minute about what you have stored.

- Credit Card Information
- Bank Information
- Personal and Business Contacts
- Social Security Numbers
- Addresses and Telephone Numbers
- Private and Confidential Information

If this information were to fall into the wrong hands it could be a disaster.

How to protect your laptop against theft & loss:



1. **Keep Your Eyes On Your Laptop**—Be aware of your laptop at all times especially when traveling. You wouldn't leave a thousand dollar bill lying around unattended would you? So watch your laptop closely.
2. **Don't Use An Obvious Laptop Bag**—Carry your laptop in regular luggage that doesn't look like it has a laptop. Don't advertise your laptop to anyone who would be thieves.
3. **Use Passwords And Encryption**— Use passwords and encryption to protect any sensitive information on your laptop. Again, unless you use very sophisticated encryption it won't fool the experienced hacker or hard-core digital thief but it will slow down and hinder the common criminal. Set a password for your laptop. You have to take advantage of any security option that's on your laptop's operating system.
4. **Use Anti-theft Software Like LoJack**—Use anti-theft software that can track and locate your laptop or computer through the IP address once the stolen laptop is used to access the Internet. According to the information on the LoJack website they recover 3 out of 4 stolen laptops equipped with the LoJack system. It basically places hidden and silent software that reports back the IP address and location of the laptop once it is stolen and the thief connects to the Internet.

5. **Backup Backup Backup—BACKUP** your information regularly. Keep your laptop and its contents safe and out of harm's way. No matter if it is through theft or simple misplacement, losing a laptop is a painful experience, one you should avoid at all costs. However, if it does happen to you, be assured you can minimize the pain by having a complete backup of your laptop's contents. Hardware can be easily replaced but your personal data and months/years of work may take forever to recover or re-do. Sometimes it is lost forever.

