



Vehicle prowls are a type of property crime in which thieves break into vehicles and steal valuables. They are often crimes of opportunity, and thieves will target vehicles that are left unlocked or with valuables visible inside. Many times, a stolen vehicle is the result of keys being found during a prowl.

Here are some tips to help prevent vehicle prowls:

- Always lock your doors. This is the most important thing you can do to prevent a vehicle prowler. Thieves will often target unlocked vehicles, so it is important to make sure your doors are always locked, even if you are only going to be away for a few minutes.
- Do not leave valuables visible inside your vehicle. Thieves are looking for easy targets, so if they can see valuables inside your vehicle, they are more likely to break in. This includes things like laptops, cell phones, and purses. Even an empty bag can be a target if it's a chance to find something valuable.
- Park in well-lit areas. Thieves are less likely to target vehicles that are parked in well-lit areas. If you must park in a dark area, try to park near a well-lit building or streetlight.
- Consider installing a security system. A security system can help to deter thieves, and it can also provide evidence if your vehicle is broken into. Motion sensing lights can also be a deterrent.
- Be aware of your surroundings. If you see someone acting suspicious around your vehicle, do not hesitate to call the police.

Here are some additional tips that may help:

- Get to know your neighbors and their vehicles.
- Report any suspicious activity to the police. Even if you are unsure, it's always better to err on the side of caution and report it.
- Be aware of your surroundings when you're out and about. If you see someone acting suspiciously, don't hesitate to call the police.

By working together, we can help to keep our communities safe. If you observe a vehicle prowler in progress call 911.

Medina Police Department: For emergencies, call 911 – Office (425) 233-6420