



VEHICLE THEFT PREVENTION

What Consumers Should Know

Protect Your Ride: Tips for Vehicle Theft Protection

In 2014, there were 689,527 motor vehicles reported stolen in the United States—that's a vehicle stolen every 46 seconds. Nearly 45 percent of these vehicles are never recovered. The estimated total value of vehicles stolen nationwide is more than \$4.5 billion.

Don't Make Your Vehicle a Target

Nearly half of vehicle theft is due to driver error, such as leaving your keys in the vehicle. Use common sense when you park by:

- Always taking your keys and not leaving them in or on your vehicle
- Closing windows and locking doors
- Parking in well-lit areas
- Never leaving valuables in your vehicle, especially where they can be seen
- Never leaving the area while your vehicle is running
- Keeping your vehicle in your garage, if possible

Protect Your Vehicle

There are several different types of antitheft systems and devices designed to make vehicles more difficult to steal or easier to trace and recover. Here's how some of them work:

Audible and Visible Devices deter theft by bringing attention to an unauthorized attempt to steal or enter your vehicle, such as a horn alarm. Visible devices create a visual threat/warning/deterrence, such as the use of steering-wheel locks—as well as theft-deterrent decals, flashing lights, and window etching.

Immobilizing-Type Devices prevent thieves from bypassing your vehicle's ignition system and hot-wiring the vehicle. Some incorporate computer chips in ignition keys or disable the flow of electricity or fuel to the engine.

Vehicle Recovery Systems: These devices use electronic transmission technology that helps law enforcement reveal the location of stolen vehicles—and possibly catch thieves in action.

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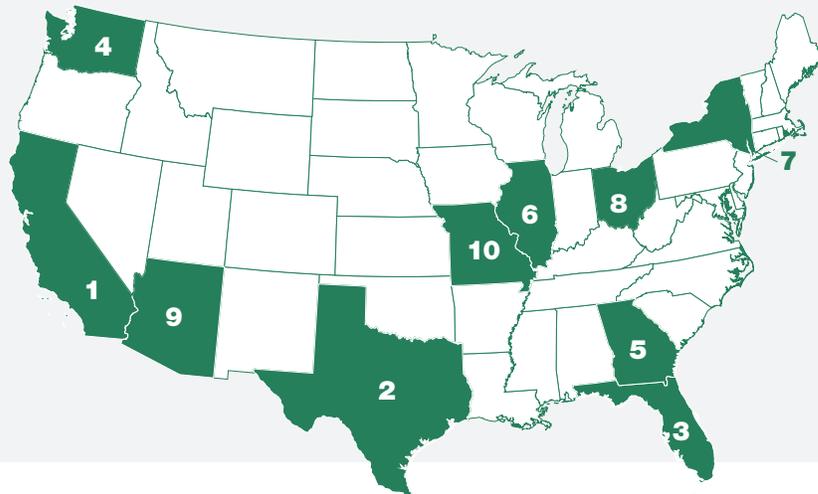
Where's My Ride?

If you find yourself in the unfortunate situation where your vehicle has been stolen, follow these steps:

- Contact police immediately to file a stolen-vehicle report. You'll need a copy of the police report and/or a case number to provide to your insurance company. You may also be asked to provide the following information:
 - License plate number;
 - Make, model and color of vehicle; and
 - VIN and any identifying characteristics.
- Contact your insurance company to file a claim within 24 hours of when you discovered your vehicle was stolen.
- If you find your vehicle before authorities do, contact the police and your insurance company immediately.

Top 10 States for Most Vehicles Stolen in CY 2014

- 1 California
- 2 Texas
- 3 Florida
- 4 Washington
- 5 Georgia
- 6 Illinois
- 7 New York
- 8 Ohio
- 9 Arizona
- 10 Missouri



Top 10 Stolen Vehicles in CY 2014

- | | |
|----------------------------|---------------------------|
| 1 Honda Accord | 6 Ford Econoline |
| 2 Honda Civic | 7 Ford F250 |
| 3 Toyota Camry | 8 Nissan Altima |
| 4 General Motors Silverado | 9 Toyota Corolla |
| 5 Ford F150 | 10 General Motors GMT-400 |



**U.S. Department of
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