

DO IT YOURSELF SECURITY ON A SHOESTRING

PART 4 – MORE SECURITY IDEAS. *From curious to practical to outrageous to weird. Use some at your own risk if foolish or contra-rule in your district. These ideas get you thinking about creating your own methods and devices. Main goal: **feel safe and confident in your security.***

WASP SPRAY- canister handy? Elsewhere in this book, we noted these shoot a deadly spray several yards. May need 2 for house and another for car. Verify expiry date and put car spray under seat to keep cool.

BETTER CHAIN LOCKS? Two recent Hollywood thrillers showed heavy duty chains locks as part of home protection. Much bigger than ones hardware stores have sold us for years – the small ones that a child can kick off a door. A character in movie 11:11:11 used heavier chains in two flash scenes. Some people put them on doors connecting Garage to House and bedroom doors and give each bedroom a name like B1, B2, to keep track of keys where padlocks used. FIXIT stores or home improvement shops sell a commercial version. Look at this do-it-yourself simple and very cheap method.

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HOW TO DO IT. Get strong CHAIN in 8" sections - a section for each door. If you want to easily put a lock on the chains from either side of the door, use two 6" pieces - one chain on door and one on wall or door jamb. Choose chain with a welded closed loop. Don't get chain so heavy you find it hard to handle, yet not so light a pocket bolt cutter can break. To prevent chain rubbing on paint, choose vinyl covered chain or after installation, notice where chain rubs then place a strip of clear vinyl or sticky back velcro. Suggestion: Do a chain lock system for one back door first before buying parts for other doors, to see if you want to make any changes to these steps. Note that doors may have different thicknesses, requiring different lengths on the eye bolts.

For each installation, get an EYE SCREW (screws with closed loop at top, versus hook screws with open loop) - 4" long to put into door jamb (2"x4" wood around door). And EYE BOLT (closed loop bolt with nut at end) for thickness of each house door, usually about 1.75 to 2" - a longer bolt will extend out door and may need thread roughened to prevent unwinding by thug on that side of door, or if you have a welder just melt seal the bolt end.

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ATTACH CHAINS TO EYE LOOPS before attaching to wall. Open eye of Eye Screw (this goes into door jamb or wall) by using two wrenches or vise grips, then slip on chain end loop, then close eye back. If using two chains for ease of locking from either side of door, put chain on Eye Bolt as well.

ON DOOR, drill hole for door eye bolt into solid wood part of door about 1" from edge, and not into cork filling inside door since this has no strength. Use steel washers on one or both sides for added strength against kicking by thug.

ON WALL, pre-drill hole for the long eye screw into solid wood part of door frame. Each chain needs to lock from either side, so make sure when chains locked or clamped together, you can reach the lock or clamp from either side of door. This becomes useful later when you go away from house for a long time and want to feel confident no criminal has kicked open the door. Use padlocks on these chains when away.

GOOD LOCK? One shown in picture cost me \$2.50, a budget price and good example of strong: min. 1-3/4 in. steel lock, double locking, heavy duty or hardened chrome shackle, 5 pin tumbler, ten year warranty, and two brass keys.

For everyday use while living in house, quickly and simply clamp chains together with c-lock rings to quickly lock and unlock.

Suggestion: Spring Links in stainless steel or zinc finish with strength of 160 lbs up. Remember - before pulling on door to swing it open, see if chain lock closed. Always open these doors **slowly**. Tape an index card over door handle so everyone in house knows to look at the chain to see if locked. Until you get used to handling the chain lock, as a reminder wrap foil or rubber bands on doorknob inside and out as an alert, or use any other method to signal the chain.

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