

## **Checklist: Safe Gun Storage**

When you are not using your firearm, you should insure that it is stored safely. Make sure it is not accessible by minors, thieves, or other unauthorized users by taking the following steps:

1. Use of a simplex-type locking box for securing firearms which need to be kept loaded yet available for ready-access defensive use, and
2. Use of trigger locks or padlocks to secure firearms which don't need to be kept immediately available for defensive use.

If you need assistance contact your local police department, or call Project HomeSafe, a national gun-lock distribution program, at: (800) 726-6444.

3. Metal gun cabinets or gun safes are more secure than open racks or glass-front cabinets.
4. Firearms should be stored unloaded and separate from ammunition when the firearm isn't needed for ready-access defensive use.
5. Lock and store ammunition separately from the firearm.
6. Store critical components of a firearm (such as the gun's bolt or slide) separately from the rest of the firearm when the gun won't be used in the immediate future.
7. Engrave your firearms with your social security number, driver's license number, or concealed firearms license number to deter theft and facilitate return of stolen firearms.
8. "Gun-proof" your child with proper guidance about safety.

### **DO NOT RELY ON THE FOLLOWING:**

9. Gun security devices that rely on physical strength to secure firearms from unauthorized use are not a good solution. Children are smart and will find a tool to overcome the security.
10. "Hiding" a firearm won't secure it from discovery.