

SECURITY

Many dogs are lost and/or killed due to inadequate security measures. Please don't let your pet become a statistic.

- 1) Make sure all gates and doors have secure locks.
- 2) Check fences for any weak boards that a dog might tear down or gaps where a dog might squeeze through. They can get through smaller places than you would think.
- 3) The size of the dog does not necessarily dictate its ability to climb or jump over a fence. If your dog is a jumper, extend the height of your fence. Some dogs can climb chicken wire. If so, you can try boards or aluminum.
- 4) Teach your children to shut doors and gates.
- 5) If your dog is a digger, you can dig down about a foot and put wire covered by dirt along the fence line. Digging into wire discourages them. A cement or brick base under your fence will also alleviate digging. Balloons taped along the fence might scare the dog away temporarily.
- 6) If you like to leave your sliding glass door open a crack, be aware that dogs can get a paw or nose in that crack and open it further.
- 7) Dogs can lift unlocked garage doors with their backs. Yes really!
- 8) A dog that digs under the fence or jumps over it may be bored. A companion dog may help, may not. You might then have two dogs getting out. A variety of toys will help. Rotating toys so the dog doesn't get bored with them also helps. Lots of exercise helps a lot. Tired dogs don't want to go anywhere. A doggy door may help.
- 9) Obedience training is recommended for any dog. Your dog will be less inclined to leave if home is fun, and if the bond with you is strong.
- 10) An enclosed kennel is useful when no one is home to watch the yard. When you're home, the dog should be with you.
- 11) IMPORTANT: Should your dog get out, an ID tag greatly increases your chances of getting it back. You can also talk to your vet about tattooing and microchipping.