

## **New Technology for Home Security Systems**

One element of English law carried over when the United States of America was established in the 1700s is that “Your home is your castle.” This old saying really has merit – you do have the right to defend your home against invasion, and you are allowed privacy and protection from outside intruders.

With that in mind, it would be a wise investment if you have not done so already to have a home security system to protect your loved ones and valuables. A recent article ([http://www.mlive.com/homeandgarden/index.ssf/2008/11/easy\\_security\\_new\\_technology\\_o.html](http://www.mlive.com/homeandgarden/index.ssf/2008/11/easy_security_new_technology_o.html)) suggests that many new home buyers find the new technology employed by these systems offer more than just security, especially for people prone to locking themselves out of the house.

For example, some locks now allow homeowners entry via their fingerprints rather than keys. You can run the tip of your finger over a sensor and it will unlock your door, saving you the aggravation of fumbling through your pants or purse while carrying bags and other materials in your hand. By scanning your fingerprints (and your family’s) into the lock’s memory system, you gain access to go inside while are denied for not having the right prints. These locks can also be programmed to restrict access for some people to certain times of the day and week, such as housekeepers or teenagers with curfews.

The advent of wireless technology has helped bring down installation costs for many security systems, eliminating the need and expense of running wires throughout a home from every door and window sensor. Instead, wireless sensors at these locations can alert a monitoring station, even your cell phone, when tripped.

Home security systems and their advanced technology can run you into the thousands of dollars if you are not careful. Consider the following recommendations and see which of them works best for you:

- Look for a system that includes sensors for outside doors and inside doors leading into the garage or mud room.
- Install infrared motion detectors inside the home and glass-break sensors.
- Have alarm keypads you can press as “panic buttons” within easy reach. Typically this includes the master bedroom and front and back doors.
- Buy timers to turn on lamps or TVs while you are not home to fool burglars into thinking you are there. They are inexpensive – usually under \$10 each.

Many new home builders may be offering security systems as part of their incentives ([http://www.securitysales.com/t\\_inside.aspx?action=article&StoryID=2314](http://www.securitysales.com/t_inside.aspx?action=article&StoryID=2314)). Seek out the ones who do this, including of course us at Royal Oaks Building Group, LLC, and take the advice as to the best ways to transform your home into a very safe castle.

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