

Alarm System Checklist

By Nicole Nichols-West

- ☐ Alarm System
 - ☐ Know what you expect the alarm system to achieve in terms of protection.
 - ☐ Decide if you want the alarm system to link to a 24 hour monitoring service provided by a vendor.
 - ☐ Survey your home and determine how many windows and doors you want to be integrated into the home security system.
 - ☐ Determine possible locations for the control panel and keypads.
 - ☐ Determine how far away windows and doors are from the control panel.
 - ☐ Choose a system with a control panel that can monitor all the zones you have in your home.
 - ☐ Make certain that a wireless system can perform up to the distance of the farthest zone.
 - ☐ Be certain that the system you choose can accept fire-protection sensors, carbon monoxide sensors etc.
 - ☐ Make certain that inputting codes into the keypad is not a complicated process.
 - ☐ Work the keypad of the system you select to assure yourself that it is easy to use.
- ☐ Alarm Systems Company
 - ☐ Ask if the company carries general liability, workman's compensation, and errors/omissions insurance.
 - ☐ Ask to see the company's business license.
 - ☐ Ask for referrals of other customers in your area that have had systems installed like the one you are considering.
 - ☐ Ask if the company has been established for three to five years.
 - ☐ Ask where alarm system monitoring center is located.
 - ☐ Be sure the company does the entire installation and does not subcontract work.
 - ☐ Review the contract carefully before you sign.
 - ☐ Know what the warranty period is and what is included in the warranty.