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Public Safety Commissioner

# THE SAFETY BRIEF



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Chief of Police

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◆◆ NORTH BERGEN POLICE DEPARTMENT ◆◆

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## Tips to Prevent Package Theft

*Protection in Practice: Prevent Package Theft*

### 1. Use secure delivery options

- ✓ Install a **parcel lockbox** or choose delivery to **Amazon Hub, UPS Access Point**, or a **local store**.
- ✓ This keeps packages off your porch entirely or locked until you pick them up.

### 2. Give clear delivery instructions

- ✓ Ask drivers to leave packages in **less visible spots** (*behind a planter, side gate, or back porch*).
- ✓ Add notes like **"Do not leave in plain sight,"** and schedule deliveries when you are home.

### 3. Use delivery management tools

- ✓ Services like UPS My Choice or USPS Informed Delivery send **real-time alerts**, allow **rescheduling**, and let you **hold** packages when you're away.
- ✓ Amazon also provides specific drop-off instructions and **photo delivery confirmation**.

### 4. Coordinate with neighbors

- ✓ Set up a **text group** so neighbors can grab each other's packages when someone isn't home.
- ✓ Works especially well in townhomes, apartments, or close-knit blocks.

### 5. Reduce porch visibility

- ✓ Keep the porch **clean and open**—trim shrubs or items that hide packages.
- ✓ Add a **discreet package shelf or box** visible to drivers but hidden from the street.

### 6. Use Smart Home Tech

- ✓ Use **video doorbells** to increase visibility and capture footage:
- ✓ Examples: **Ring Video Doorbell, Google Nest Doorbell, Arlo Essential Video Doorbell, Eufy Video Doorbell** (no monthly fees).
- ✓ Pair them with **motion-activated lights** to make would-be thieves highly visible.
- ✓ Consider **smart locks or garage access systems** for secure in-home/garage drop-offs with compatible delivery services.
- ✓ Add **clear signage** such as:
  - "Video Recording in Progress"
  - "Property Under Camera Surveillance"
  - "All Activity Monitored"
  - "Packages Secured—No Deliveries Left Here"

*Simple signs can significantly reduce opportunistic theft by making thieves think they're being watched.*

### 7. Use Signature-Required for valuables

- ✓ For expensive items, request **"Signature Required," "Adult Signature Required,"** or **"Hold at Location,"** so nothing is left unattended.



## Questions, Comments, or Concerns?

Email our Community Relations Unit:  
[CommunityRelations@NorthBergenPD.com](mailto:CommunityRelations@NorthBergenPD.com)  
Call or Text: (201) 600-9761

**IN CASE OF AN EMERGENCY DIAL 911**

*If you suspect your package was stolen, first confirm delivery details, check with neighbors, and report suspicious activity or thefts to the North Bergen Police Department (201) 392-2100*