

PREPARED NOT PARANOID

HOME INVENTORY CHECKLIST





Below is a checklist of steps and key information to gather as you document your valuables. Use this as a guide or even as a template for your own inventory list:

ROOM-BY-ROOM SURVEY



List and walk through **every room and area** of your home.



List **all valuable items** (furniture, electronics, appliances, jewelry, artwork, collections, etc.).



Don't forget the **"small stuff"** clothing, kitchenware, tools.



Check off **every space**: attic, basement, garage, closets, sheds, and storage units.

ITEM DETAILS TO RECORD



For each significant item, note:



Description

Size, material, unique features.



Make/Model

Brand name and model number.



Serial Number

Especially for electronics, appliances, bikes, firearms.



Purchase Info

Date, store, purchase price (attach receipt if available).



Appraised/Current Value

Especially antiques, jewelry, or collectibles (include date of appraisal).



Location

Where the item is usually kept.



Photos

Confirm each item has at least one photo or video reference.

PHOTOGRAPHIC EVIDENCE



- Take **at least one photo or video** of each item or group of items.
- Capture **serial numbers and unique details** clearly.
- For small items (jewelry, coins), include a **ruler or ID** card in the shot for scale.
- Consider **initialing photo files or printouts** to affirm ownership.

MARKINGS & ENGRAVINGS



- Record any **engraved or identifying marks** (e.g., driver's license number, custom engraving).

Example: *"Marked with CA DL# 12345678"*.

- These details help deter theft and assist police in recovery.

ORGANIZE DOCUMENTS



- ☐ Create a **folder (physical & digital)** for supporting materials.
- ☐ Include:
 - ☐ Purchase receipts
 - ☐ Appraisals
 - ☐ Warranty information
 - ☐ Instruction manuals with serial numbers
- ☐ Cross-reference documents in your inventory list (e.g., “See receipt in folder”).

USE TOOLS TO ASSIST



- ☐ Choose your format:
 - ☐ Handwritten checklist
 - ☐ Spreadsheet
 - ☐ Home inventory app/software
- ☐ Digital formats make updates easier.
- ☐ Many apps allow **photo integration**.
- ☐ If you use **AI-based tools**, such as scanlily.com, always verify for accuracy.

BACKUP & SAFE STORAGE



- Make at least **one backup copy immediately**.
- Options include:
 - Printed copy stored with a relative or in a safe deposit box
 - Digital copy on a flash drive or secure cloud storage
- Keep backups **protected and accessible** outside your home.

UPDATE REGULARLY



- Treat your inventory as a **living document**.
- Add new purchases as they come in.
- Remove items you've sold, donated, or discarded.
- Do an **annual review** to keep everything current.



By following this checklist, you'll create a **complete, credible, and secure catalog** of your valuables giving you confidence that you're prepared for the unexpected.