

**LOCKED OUT OF  
YOUR HOME OR  
BUSINESS?**

**LOOKING TO RE-KEY  
YOUR LOCKS?**

**NEED HELP  
CALL US NOW**

**773-681-5041**

**Door Unlocking, Lock Re-Keying, New Lock Installation, Residential Locksmith**

## How to Prevent Lock Bumping

For years, locksmith service providers have used a method called lock bumping as part of their work. This technique is typically used in the house lockout cases. It was a matter of time before thieves learned how to use this technique as well. It is particularly useful to them since it leaves no signs of forced entry. It is not clear exactly how often burglars use this technique, but in over 60% of all burglaries there is no evidence of forced entry. For these reasons, every home owner must adopt appropriate measures for prevention.

## Understanding Lock Bumping

In order to prevent lock bumping, you have to have clear idea of what it is. It involves the use of a specially prepared key called a bump key or 999-key. In order for the bump key to be created, a series of special cuts is made onto a regular key. Once the 999-key is ready, it is simply inserted into the cylinder of the lock. Then forced is applied to the key. It is typically tapped several times for the door to get open, but in some cases a single tap is more than sufficient. Given the relative ease with which a door can be open and the fact that it is usually difficult for the tapping to be heard by people around, the adoption of preventive measures is crucial.

## Methods for Prevention

Select a lock from a reputable brand - This simple measure has two major benefits. Firstly, the major brands integrate the latest and most advanced technologies into their products and this makes the locksets more difficult to open even with techniques like bumping. Additionally, the major manufacturers work closely with locksmith business organizations to ensure that devices which can be used for the opening of their locks for legal purposes are not made accessible to criminals.

Get protective pins installed - These specially designed pins can be installed onto existing locks. Their job is to prevent the opening of the door in case of bumping. With pins in place, the key will not be able to move inside or will get stuck. In any case, the door will remain closed. This is a cost-efficient solution which is easily accessible to most households.

Have specially designed bump-resistant and locks installed - This option requires a larger investment, but it has several notable benefits. You will not only get protection from these techniques used by burglars. The locks are more resistant to other types of attacks and are generally more durable than their traditional counterparts. These locks use a specially designed mechanism which prevents bumping effectively. Usually, there is one pin which is set higher

than all others and another one which sits on the shear line. In this case, even if the bump key is cut low enough to bump the shear line it will not be able to reach the one set at the higher level. If the key has high cut, it will reach the upper pin, but this will result in an over lift of the one which stays on the shear line.

Consider commercial lock installation - These are heavy-duty locks which are resistant to bumping, picking and other types of attacks. They are typically more complex compared to home locks. Moreover, they will come as a surprise to thieves.

Do what is necessary to protect your home from break-ins by preventing lock bumping.

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