

VEHICLE THEFT AND KEY CONTROL SYSTEMS

We have had some vehicle theft incidents recently which were the result of stolen keys picked up by unauthorized walk-ins and by employees. **Key control systems are a good way to protect your vehicles and your customer's vehicles against theft and to increase the productivity of your sales employees.**

Key control systems, especially automated electronic systems, provide excellent solutions for the security, storage and control of your keys. The systems take advantage of computer technology to track keys so your sales employees can focus on the customer.

These systems can help your dealership eliminate lost, misplaced or stolen keys which provides the following benefits for your dealership bottom line:

Controls the access of customers and employees to keys which they can use to steal dealership and/or customer vehicles

It will reduce the costs of cutting and re-keying lost, misplaced or stolen keys

Eliminate the unauthorized use of vehicles

Keep your inventory safe from abuse

Reduce your liability for customer vehicles in the service area by keeping them and their contents safe

Reduce the amount of time sales employees need to find keys so the sales process is not interrupted.

Reduce the amount of time customers wait at the cashier's window by lowering the amount of time it takes to locate and retrieve their vehicles

Reduce the blocked vehicle problems caused by lot space constraints that can keep customers waiting

Eliminate locksmith costs associated with lost customer keys

Key systems continue to become more secure, user friendly and aesthetic. New key systems have capacities up to 400+ keys and are large enough to hold both keys and vehicle remote access systems. These systems provide dealerships with total security and control over which employees have access to what keys and when. The interface on the electronic systems guides the salesperson through the necessary steps to get the keys they need. Each salesperson enters their unique code every time they need a key (some have fingerprint readers) to verify their authorization. If a key is in use the system identifies which salesperson has the key and when it was checked out. When a key is dispensed it is logged on the computer. The system records information on the keys location, the salesperson and the vehicle. The systems also provide reports on key usage that can be valuable in tracking salesperson performance and efficiency. Key control systems provide a valuable method for keeping your dealership and customer vehicles safe.

Keeping these vehicles safe from theft, accident and abuse can have a positive impact on your property and casualty insurance rates which will increase your bottom line. The systems will also increase your sales department's efficiency which will also increase dealership profits.