

## **Like your car? Remove the valet key from the glove compartment**

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*Byline: David Carrigg*

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*Series: Stolen Lives: An in-depth look at the dangerous world of auto crime*

The Vancouver Police Department's Stolen Auto Squad has issued a warning to owners of new high-end autos: Don't leave your valet keys in the glove compartment.

The small flat keys are made of carbon fibre and are placed in the owner's manual.

"What happens is people just forget them. They are too excited with their new car and simply leave them in their glove box," says Phil Ens, the VPD's auto theft expert. Ens says he recently found a stolen new BMW with dozens of owners manuals on the front seat.

Thieves will simply smash in the window, go straight for the glove compartment and search for the valet key. If they find the key they can deactivate the alarm and simply drive off.