



Urban Survival Security Tactics

with Jeff Anderson for www.MCSMagazine.com

Your Urban Survival Threat Matrix

In highly-populated areas, threats to you and your family could come from beggars... looters... gangs... even the government and security forces during collapse martial law.

Factor 1: Secure Your Home

If you live in or around an urban area when the “s” hits the fan, your home can become a prime target... and you need to make it a fortress of protection for you and your loved ones.

- Check out [MCS Podcast #37](#) for specific tactics for home protection.

Factor 2: Secure Your “Status”

How you look and project yourself to others through your clothes, vehicle, even how you smell, can give away your level of preparedness.

- Don’t follow the “Looters Will Be Shot” artists in your neighborhood – it signals you have guns and ammunition that others may target.
- Look how others are dressed, walk, and even smell (clean or dirty) to blend in and be the “grey man/woman”.
- Keep details of your supplies secret before, during and after an event takes place in order to avoid beggars or gun-/gear-grabbers from knocking on your door.

Factor 3: Secure Your Supplies

When infrastructure goes down, resources will become scarce. Unprepared citizens and opportunistic criminals will seek out alternative sources for food and other supplies when none are to be found.

- Seek out caching locations – in and around your home, or even underground – to hide your back-up supplies.
- When an event strikes, take a portion of your food, ammo, and other supplies and cache them for safeguarding against others.
- Consider urban caches for escape & evasion supplies if you have to quickly extract yourself from the area. (Consider [Urban E&E Training](#) for advanced tips.)

Factor 4: Secure Your Family

In a wide-scale disaster or crisis, no one is going to come save you. It’s up to YOU to protect yourself and those you love. Period.

- Have an [“urban survival weapons plan”](#) set up now... before a SHTF event! (*Hint: It’s not the same thing as a “home defense” plan.*)
- When an event happens, brief your family on security threats and protocols – including information security.

Factor 5: Secure Your Movement

Traveling into and through urban areas requires military tactics

- Recon is essential before you ever enter an unknown urban area. Identify threats, security patrols/checkpoints, and safe avenues to achieve your mission.
- If you can, always travel as a “team”.
- Travel at dusk, dawn, or night to avoid detection and take advantage of “urban terrain” and shadows.
- Use “bounding overwatch” or “lead/trail” movement and 2-way radios to travel safely and provide defensive back-up if attacked.