

Secured by Design

Many burglaries/house break-ins are opportunist crimes.
Do not be a victim through poor security.



Your checklist:

- Would doors and locks resist attack with tools available in your local hardware store?
- Do you have and use window locks?
- Do you keep your car keys more than three metres from your letterbox, front door or open window?
- If burglars attacked your doors or window for five minutes would they be seen by neighbours, activate security lights or set off an alarm?
- Has any of your security passed attack test standards?
- Have you reviewed your security in the past 12 months and done something about it?

If you answered 'no' to any of the above questions, you need to check out this project.

If you answered 'no' to all of the above questions, your home is at risk.

Who are we?

- **UK police initiative supporting the principles of designing-out-crime through the use of effective crime prevention and security standards for a range of applications.**
- **Helping reduce the opportunity for crime and the fear of crime**
- **Creating a safer, more secure environment for all**
- **Research shows that Secured by Design can reduce burglary and car crime by up to 50%**

Recommendations:

Deter access to your garden and property

- ✓ Stop access to the back garden – fit 2m fencing and lock gates
- ✓ Prickly bushes along boundaries and gravel can deter thieves
- ✓ Prune bushes and trees so thieves cannot work unseen
- ✓ Trellis on top of fences and walls makes it more difficult to climb over
- ✓ Install dusk to dawn or motion detection lighting

Secure your garage and shed – don't let burglars use your tools to break in

- ✓ Ensure doors are solid enough not to be kicked in and fit strong padlocks to garage and shed doors
- ✓ Lock ladders inside your garage or shed or padlock them horizontally to a sturdy bracket on an outside wall
- ✓ Fit anchor posts and lockable steel boxes to the floor to store tools and equipment

Protect your possessions – identify them as yours and use tested technology

- ✓ Marking your property may deter burglars, can help the police to return items to you and assist prosecution
- ✓ Visibly and permanently mark items with your postcode and house number
- ✓ Use technology – computer security, car tracking systems, house alarms and property marking
- ✓ Safeguard keys, PIN's, passwords and other personal information

Windows are a popular entry point for burglars

- ✓ Replacement windows should be certified to BS 7950
- ✓ Fit existing windows with locks and use them
- ✓ Remove the keys and keep out of sight but at hand in case of emergency
- ✓ Laminated glass is harder to break – use it where you cannot fit locks

If your exterior doors are not secure then neither is your home

- ✓ Install door sets – bought as door, frame, locks and hinges – certified to BS PAS24-1
- ✓ If you cannot see callers, fit a door viewer (spy hole) and use it
- ✓ Letterboxes should be at least 40cm (16 inches) from any locks. Consider fitting a letterbox cage and never hang a spare key inside the door
- ✓ Patio doors – sliding door should be on inside and have anti-lift blocks. If not, fit additional locks top and bottom
- ✓ Do not leave door or car keys visible or within 3 metres of letterboxes or open windows

You can upgrade an existing door if the materials are sound

- ✓ Ensure the frame is sound and screwed to brickwork and fit hinge bolts
- ✓ Fit BS:3621 five-lever mortise deadlock a third of the way up the door
- ✓ Fit BS:3621 night latch lock a third of the way from top of door
- ✓ A door chain allows you to talk to callers – it does not stop burglary

Doorstep callers

- ✓ Do not let in visitors or representatives of utilities companies without checking their identification
- ✓ Do not discuss your security with or purchase security from cold-call salesmen.





www.securedbydesign.com

- Further crime prevention information
- Links to companies supplying Secured by Design accredited products
- Information on how Secured by Design is improving our communities

Build in security

- For new build homes and home extensions, specify security that meets Secured by Design standards

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