

LIGHTING contd

External Security lighting

- Fit dusk to dawn lighting or movement sensor lighting.
- Install lighting out of easy reach and, where possible, at least 2.5 metres from the ground.

ALARMS

Liaise with your Insurance Company to confirm the standard of alarm required.

Burglar alarm

- According to research, houses fitted with a working burglar alarm are less likely to be burgled.
- We do not advise the use of dummy alarm covers or Dummy CCTV.

Alarm activated when going to bed

- Use the zoning facility, where available, on your alarm to protect downstairs (other areas) when you go to bed.

Fit smoke alarms

- For safety's sake, fit and test smoke alarms regularly.
- For additional information, refer to the Fire and Rescue Service Fire Reduction Officer and to page 30 of the TVP book "How to avoid becoming a target for crime" (internal use only).

PROPERTY MARKING

Property marking – valuables and non-valuables

- Use Forensic marking Smart water, Selecta DNA or Crimestoppers property protector forensic marking
- Or, use Ultra-violet marker pens, engraving or etching to put your house number and postcode on items.
- Mark your garden tools also, e.g. using house paint.

PROPERTY MARKING contd

Photograph property

- Photograph unusual and/or valuable items, pictures, jewellery, ceramics etc.

Inventory list

- Record all serial and model numbers of electrical items.
- Consider various on-line registration schemes for property marking or refer to the CPRA for additional information.

VEHICLE SECURITY

Secure your vehicle every time you leave it unattended.

Vehicle fitted with security

- Where possible, keep your car in a secured garage.
- Ensure the car alarm/immobiliser is set when you leave it unattended.
- Remove all valuables from a vehicle when it is left unattended.

Car keys

- Keep your car keys out of sight of windows and out of reach of a letter box, open windows or cat-flaps.



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CI4533 / CP52



Home Security Advice

A reference for use with the Home Security Advice form (CP51).

This leaflet can be handed, together with a completed copy of the assessment form, to the public. It can also be used on its own to accompany verbal advice.

GARDEN GATES AND FENCES

Gardens

- Look for weaknesses in your garden boundary, e.g. broken fencing and gaps in the hedge.
- Lock your ladders and tools away, don't leave them in the garden.
- Consider property marking your tools.
- Never recommend the use of barbed wire, broken glass or carpet gripper as a deterrent to intruders. There are legal implications and alternatives are available.
- Consider defensive planting and trellis.

Gates

- Fit strong, lockable, high gates across passageways.
- Consider locking even low gates.

Fences/Hedges

- Prune hedges and keep fencing to one metre high in the front gardens and up to 1.8 metres high in the rear garden.
- Higher fences may need planning permission.

SHEDS AND GARAGES

Tools are targets for theft and can be used to break into your home.

Sheds

- Keep them of good construction
- Lock them with a close-shackled padlock.
- Use clutch head screws or coaching bolts in the hinge brackets.
- Protect your shed with an alarm.

Garages

- Fit good quality door locks to garages.
- Fit padlocks on internal garage door runners.
- Integral garage doors – follow advice for front doors
- Protect your garage with an alarm.

DOORS

Doors and frames should be strong and in good condition.

Front and back doors

- Wooden doors: Fit a mortise deadlock to BS3621 and a strong bolt.
- UPVC doors should have multi-locking points.
- Always lock your doors. Double lock your UPVC doors by lifting the internal handle and turning the key.
- Get a professional to fit door chains to UPVC doors.
- Don't answer the door until the caller can be identified to the householder's satisfaction.
- Consider sash locks on UPVC doors, as appropriate.

Front – door viewer

- Check with the door manufacturers that fitting a door viewer will not invalidate any door warranty.
- Door viewers help to see who is outside, before opening the door.

Front - door chain

- Check with manufacturer that fitting a door chain will not invalidate any door warranty.
- As appropriate, fit a front door chain and use it when callers come to your home.

Sliding patio doors

- Fit security bolts.
- Fit anti-lift bars/blocks to prevent doors being lifted from their rails.

French doors

- Wooden doors: Fit a mortise deadlock to BS 3621 and Security bolts at the top and bottom of both doors.
- Fit 2 'Hinge bolts' per door to protect external hinges.
- UPVC doors: should have multi-locking points.
- Double lock using a key.

WINDOWS

Many windows are fitted with locking handles. Additional locks can make them more secure, if appropriate.

Window locks on all windows

- Additional window locks are available for Wooden, Metal and UPVC windows.
- Extra locks on UPVC windows should be fitted by specialists.
- Protect downstairs windows and easy to reach windows near to a flat roof or drainpipe.

Louvre windows

- Glue the slats in place or fit a Louvre lock.
- Consider replacing the slats with solid glass.

LIGHTING

Good lighting can be a deterrent.

Internal timer switches

- Use timer switches to turn some lights on when it gets dark.
- Consider plugging a radio into a timer switch.
- Use timer switches in rooms like lounges/bedrooms and not in hallways and landings.