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Shed and Garage Security

Break-ins to sheds and garages occur all too often across the country. Many criminals consider this type of crime low risk, however there is a lot you can do to outsmart them.

A few simple changes can greatly improve the security of your property.

- Make sure locks are in good working order. Fit a mortise lock (British Standard 3621:2007) and/or use a good quality closed shackle padlock on your shed / garage door. The hasp should be attached using coach bolts or anti tamper screws rather than basic screws.
- If there are any windows in the garage/shed, fit a grill, adhesive frosting or put a curtain over the window, so that people cannot easily see in.
- Fit an audible shed alarm – available on line or hardware shops.
- Use ground anchors or shed shackles (fitted as per the manufactures instructions) to secure bikes and equipment via chains and padlocks.
- Consider forensic property marking for valuable items and the www.bikeregister.com for bikes.
- A garage defender could be fitted to deter / prevent access via the main garage doors.
- If possible consider extending your house alarm into the garage.
- Any door directly connecting the garage and house should be of external door quality and kept locked / alarmed.
- Surrounding hedges or trees should be cut back so as not to provide cover for thieves.
- Clear your garden all of debris, rubble and tools that could be used to force entry.
- Install security lighting to illuminate your garden / drive way – lights should be installed beyond easy reach so they cannot be damaged by criminals.
- Increase the height of your fence or wall with a trellis, which provides support for climbing plants further deterring thieves.
- Spikey plants, such as Berberis and Hawthorn can help deter intruders.
- If purchasing security products look for items endorsed with the Sold Secure or Secured by Design logo – see images below.

If you see anyone acting suspiciously near to your premises please contact the police immediately with as detailed a description as possible of any person or vehicle involved.

Please call 999 if an emergency and urgent police assistance is required or 101 if not urgent to report the matter to the police.

Further advice also available at www.scotland.police.uk/advice-and-information and www.securedbydesign.com and www.soldsecure.com



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