



HOME SECURITY CHECKLIST

This checklist covers the points made in our '**Minimizing Burglary Risk**' seminar. If you have any questions, please contact your local Neighbourhood Watch Coordinator. If you are not in a Neighbourhood Watch Scheme, please email to bucksnhw@gmail.com for assistance.

QUESTIONS TO ASK YOURSELF	✓	ACTION NEEDED?
PERIMETER HARDENING OF THE PROPERTY Start by looking at your boundaries - fences, hedges, walls, gardens, garages, outbuildings, sheds.		
Is the property well hedged/fenced, with secure, locked side-gates? Do neighbours share responsibility for security? Would a trellis help?		
Do sheds, garages etc have good locks, secure windows? Are they always left locked and secure?		
Is the front of the house easily visible from the road? Or would a burglar be hidden by bushes/ high hedges? Are attractive items visible from the road?		
If renewing your drive, consider gravel! Burglars like to make a silent entrance!		
When putting out rubbish for collection, is all packaging from expensive items i.e. from laptops, tablets, phones, games consoles, hidden inside bins? Or do you take it to a recycling centre? It advertises valuable goods to steal!		
Is the road covered by a Neighbourhood Watch Scheme? Are there adequate NW road signs? Are there NW stickers at the front door of the property? 'No Cold Calling' stickers?		
Could you work with neighbours to add extra security to common areas? E.g. CCTV		
EXTERIOR OF THE PROPERTY		

Now think about the main building. Particularly consider access, locks, spare keys, alarms, CCTV etc		
Are front and patio door locks British standard i.e. 5 lever lock BS3621 and 2 mortice bolts for wooden door and multi point locking system for a UPVC door BS8621 or TS007. If fitting new door use PAS 24 standard.		
Is there a burglar alarm and is it always used properly? Is it NSI or SSAIB accredited (British Standard)? Connected to a monitored base?		
CCTV and/or a video doorbell installed – with video recording? Just at the front, or also rear of the house?		
Is the area around the house clear of ‘tools’ that an offender could use to break in i.e. bricks, rubble, garden equipment? Are ladders locked up?		
Do ground-floor and accessible windows all have window-locks, and are they locked at night or when house is empty? Are patio-door locks fitted?		
How easily could someone get up to the first-floor windows? Are there accessible flat roofs to consider?		
Are your spare keys left in a secure place – i.e. NOT under a plant pot, doormat, or stone outside? E.g. with a trusted neighbour.		
Where are keys kept at night? Are they secure? (Car key in a Faraday pouch IF KEY-LESS?) Upstairs rather than downstairs.		
Are vehicles at the premises secured when not in use? Are items always removed from vehicles i.e. laptops, tools, shopping, sat-navs or cash?		
Are your vehicles particularly at risk of catalytic converter theft? Have preventative measures been taken? (‘Sold Secure’ locks, forensic marking, garaging, lights, CCTV)		
Is a spyhole and door-chain fitted? (ONLY use to check -callers. It should not be on at night - could hamper emergency escape.		

INTERIOR OF THE PROPERTY Lastly consider high-value items (high in cash terms or sentimental value), keys, along with internal security, such as timed lighting, fake TV, or CCTV.		
Can you lock some internal doors? Fit more locks?		
Do you have a safe? Do you keep all highest value items in it? And key documents – passports etc?		
Do burglar alarm sensors cover internal areas of the property? Are they set at night?		
Internal CCTV installed – with video recording?		
Are all keys out of sight?		
Are most-valuable items (incl cash) either in a safe and/or 'Property Marked', using SelectDNA, Smartwater, UV Pen, or similar?		
Are there window-stickers telling potential thieves that property is security-marked?		
Is there a written and photographic record of any items of special value (financial or sentimental)?		
Are other attractive items such as good cameras, laptops, iPads (and chargers), and mobiles kept out of sight?		
Are downstairs curtains/blinds closed at night?		
Consider security film on most vulnerable windows.		
When you are going away: Consider the key points of – lights on timers, fake TV and/or a radio on; curtains partially drawn, inform neighbour and NW Coordinator; consider a car in drive.		
EMERGENCY EXITS: Please consider emergency exist routes and ask for advice from the Fire and Rescue Service if required.		

For further advice from TVP see: <https://www.thamesvalley.police.uk/cp/crime-prevention/>
 Or email Neighbourhood Watch at: bucksnhw@gmail.com