



SECURED BY DESIGN SECURITY ADVICE GUIDE

Homes



Many burglaries are opportunistic, however home security can be improved with a few simple measures:



A home is only as secure as its weakest point of entry, which is why it is so important to have doors and windows that are as secure as possible. Doorsets – door, frame, locks, fittings and glazing – which allow direct access to your home should achieve the high security standard of the Police Preferred Specification.



Easily accessible windows, including easily accessible roof lights and roof windows, should also meet Police Preferred Specification standards.



If you have a door connecting the garage to the house make sure this has the same level of security.



Ensure all keys, including car keys, are out of sight and away from the letterbox, as a device could be used to hook keys through the letterbox.



Always keep valuables like tablets and laptops out of sight from windows.



Store any high value items (i.e. jewellery, passports) in a properly secured safe or bank vault.



Make your valuables less attractive to thieves by using a property or police recognised forensic marking solution – this includes for valuable tools and bikes that are stored in outbuildings and garages.



Invest in a professionally installed and monitored burglar alarm.



In the evening, shut the curtains and leave lights on.



Keep ladders and tools stored away; don't leave them outside where they could be used to break into your home.



Consider joining or forming a Neighbourhood Watch scheme.



Always lock your doors and windows every time you leave the house, even when you're just out in the garden, remembering to double-lock UPVC doors (lift the handle and turn the key).



It is recommended that you always take photos of all valuables, both those which are financially valuable and those which are of sentimental value.

For further advice about any of the security tips listed above, or to find out how to buy police recognised security products, visit
www.securedbydesign.com