

# Van Security



**POLICE  
SCOTLAND**

Keeping people safe

**POILEAS ALBA**

# Van Security

**Securing a van used for carrying tools and equipment may require a combination of strategies to deter thieves and protect your valuables.**

## **Choose the Right Van**

Opt for a van with built-in security features like an alarm and immobiliser.

## **Remove Tools and Equipment**

If possible, take your tools and equipment out of the van overnight.

## **Park Smartly**

Park in well-lit, busy areas. If you can, park against a wall or another vehicle to block access to the doors.

## **Install Additional Locks**

Consider adding extra locks for all doors.

## **Wheel clamps**

Are a good visible deterrent. Look for a good rating from a recognised testing house such as Sold Secure to make sure it's built to withstand attack.

## **Steering wheel locks**

Can be a bar-lock, circular lock or even a chain and padlock.

## **Alarms and CCTV**

An alarm will often be fitted to the base van as standard and usually comes with a window sticker to advertise that it has one. 4G cameras are available for inside your van and will send an image to your mobile device if any movement is detected.

## **Immobilisers**

An immobiliser will prevent a thief from driving away. Each time you switch off your engine, the immobiliser activates automatically.

## **Trackers**

If you're unfortunate enough to have your van stolen, a tracker will send your vehicles location back to a control centre or your mobile device. Remember to keep the subscription active.

## **Keys**

Keep key fobs in a Faraday bag or shield that blocks signals and never keep spare keys in the van. Never leave keys in an unattended vehicle. Remember to keep your spare fob in a protective bag as well. Never keep keys next to the front door or obvious places like a kitchen drawer.

## **Secure Internal Storage**

Use lockable storage boxes inside the van to secure your tools.

## **Security Cables and Locks**

Specially designed anchors can be bolted to the inside of the vehicle and larger items attached using heavy duty cables or chains.

## **Window Security**

Consider using window grilles or security film to make it harder to break the windows. Tinting your windows can prevent prying eyes from seeing inside.

## **Signage**

Display signs indicating that no valuables are left in the van overnight. This may deter opportunistic thieves.

## **Forensic Marking**

Consider marking power tools with a forensic marking solution. This not only deters thieves but greatly increases the chances of your equipment being returned if stolen.

## **Pedal box**

Pedal boxes are designed to prevent vehicle theft by blocking access to the van's pedals. The box encloses the pedals, making it impossible for anyone to operate the vehicle without the correct key or combination.

## **Security posts**

Security posts are worth considering but their value depends on their location. A post will have little effect in front of a van if the rear is only protected by a flimsy fence. Thieves don't care what they destroy to remove a vehicle. Posts need to be securely fitted into the ground.

Whichever security device you chose most insurance providers will insist the product is approved by either Sold Secure or Thatcham.

## **Remember**

If you have an alarm or tracking system, pay for the subscription and use it.

Fit visible physical devices that deter thieves.

Improve driveway security with bollards, lights and CCTV.

Add extra security to all doors.

Apply window stickers to warn potential thieves there are security devices in use.

Don't leave registration documents in your van.

Never leave keys in an unattended vehicle



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