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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](http://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.
- Sign up to free local alerts and crime prevention advice provided by Police Scotland at <https://www.neighbourhoodwatchscotland.co.uk/>
- 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](http://www.scotland.police.uk/advice-and-information) and [www.securedbydesign.com](http://www.securedbydesign.com) and [www.soldsecure.com](http://www.soldsecure.com)



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