

Motorhome and Campervan Security



**POLICE
SCOTLAND**

Keeping people safe

POILEAS ALBA

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Your motorhome or campervan is a significant investment and unfortunately they are a popular target for thieves. Not only are they valuable in their own right but they are often filled with expensive contents.

Remember simple precautions like closing windows, locking all doors when you are away from the vehicle, and never leave valuables on display. Try not to leave your motorhome unattended for long periods of time.

Your insurer may require additional security measures be installed such as an alarm, immobiliser or tracking device. Some insurers will specify what device you will be required to install.

There are a wide range of options on the market to secure your motorhome and reduce the risk of theft.

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. Whichever you choose, steering wheel locks are another visual deterrent.

Alarms

Is an audio deterrent for your motorhome and will often be fitted in the base vehicle. The alarm usually comes with a window sticker which you can position appropriately to advertise that your vehicle is alarmed, thereby encouraging the would-be thief to move on.

Immobilisers

Again, this device is often found as part of the base vehicle. It is particularly helpful if a thief gains access to your motorhome, by preventing them from driving away. Each time you switch off your engine, the immobiliser activates automatically.

Trackers

If you're unfortunate enough to have your motorhome 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 a spare set of keys in the motorhome, even while on holiday. 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.

CCTV

CCTV can be a great deterrent to potential criminals as well as offering you peace of mind. It can also help the Police with investigations. 4G cameras which relay images and notifications to your mobile device can be fitted inside your motorhome providing coverage no matter where your vehicle is located. Make sure you know how to review footage if a crime has occurred. Inward facing dash cams are also available,

Locker doors

Locker doors are a common weak point. Doors leading to underbed spaces with an interior hatch or under lounge seats, should be protected with extra locks.

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, especially locker doors if they lead to the motorhome interior.

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

Don't leave registration documents in your camper. They can help thieves sell your vehicle.



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