

# SECURING YOUR GARDEN AND OUTBUILDINGS



**BURGLARY**



# Relentless on burglary



- Mark your tools with your postcode and house number, or the first two letters of your house name, then place the details on [www.immobilise.com](http://www.immobilise.com)
- Photograph valuable tools and unusual garden ornaments.
- Check for weak spots where a thief could get in – a low or sagging fence or a back gate with a weak lock.
- Fit photoelectric (dusk 'til dawn) security lights to the outside of your home at the front and back with sensors so that they're on during the hours of darkness.
- Secure your garden shed, especially if you keep valuable items stored inside. Padlocks should be made of hardened steel. Buy the close-shackled variety to prevent hacksaws or bolt croppers being used.
- Fit a strong, lockable high gate across any side passage to stop a thief getting to the back of the house where they can work undisturbed.
- Use thorny hedges and plants along boundaries, under ground-floor windows and up drainpipes to make it harder for thieves to gain access.
- Make sure the front of your house is clearly visible from the road – neighbours and passers-by will be able to see any suspicious activity.

## Sheds

- Shed windows should be screwed shut or have window locks. Consider fitting a metal grille. Security film on the glass can help as well as using frosted glass or curtains to stop a burglar seeing what you have inside.
- Chain tools, cycles and other valuable equipment together using a high security chain or cable and a padlock. Anchor the chain into the wall or floor.
- Alarms can be extended to garages and sheds. Alternatively, buy a battery-operated audible alarm.

## Garages

- If you have a door connecting your garage to your house, ensure the connecting door is secured with a mortice deadlock (BS 3621) and mortice bolts.
- Most standard 'up and over' garage doors are easily overcome by a burglar. You can prevent this by drilling a hole through the channel above the wheels and fitting a padlock. Alternatively, fit a hasp and staple each side of the door with a padlock or fit a specialist lock.

Reporting a crime? Call 101 or 999  
[www.avonandsomerset.police.uk](http://www.avonandsomerset.police.uk)

 **CRIMESTOPPERS**  
**0800 555 111**  
Call anonymously with information about crime