

Advice on how to keep your motorcycles and scooters safe



Prevent Theft & Crime

Thousands of motorcycles, scooters and mopeds are stolen across the UK each year. Some motorcycles are stolen to order to be exported, others to be broken up as parts for re-sale.

A large number of bikes are left without much security. It takes seconds for a thief to steal a moped, scooter or motorcycle, if it is unprotected. It is advised that the motorcycle & scooter is locked, chained and covered to make them harder to steal.

Police advice is to lock, chain, and cover.

Lock

Use a disc lock to help secure the front brake disc, or a grip lock to secure the brake and throttle controls. You could also use a D lock on the front wheel to stop it being wheeled away. Making your motorcycle less of any easy option will reduce the chances of it being targeted. Combine the use of a disk lock and a chain lock attached to a ground anchor.



Chain

Thieves often steal a bike by breaking the steering lock and wheeling it away. Use a chain lock through the back wheel (the front wheel can be removed). Secure your bike with the lock taut to an immovable object such as a ground anchor or street furniture. This will stop thieves from cutting a lock trailing on the ground using an angle grinder. If this isn't possible, thread the chain through your bike frame and back wheel. Keeping the lock off the ground can prevent it being attacked and smashed.

Cover

Thieves often 'shop' for particular bike models. Using a cover instantly makes it less attractive to them. A cover also provides another time-consuming obstacle for the thief. Unfortunately, security measures can't guarantee your bike won't be stolen, but by using multiple security measures you can make it harder and less attractive for thieves. For security products for your scooter, motorcycle or moped search www.securedbydesign.com accredited products page or visit www.soldsecure.com.

Remove the keys

Thieves are often opportunists, so they will look for bikes that are quick and easy to steal. Always use the steering lock and remove the ignition keys, even if you are close by or away for a few minutes. Never rely on just using your steering lock to secure your bike as thieves can break the steering lock and simply wheel the bike away.

Fitting an alarm can be a deterrent to thieves

Consider fitting a Secured by Design (SBD) or approved Thatcham-rated 1 or 2 alarm system with tracking, immobilisation, anti-grab and movement sensors that can help protect and trace your vehicle. A quality Thatcham approved, professionally fitted alarm system will not only deter thieves but could also reduce your insurance premiums.

Fit a Tracking system

Trackers systems can increase the chance of recovering your motorcycle if it is stolen. Many systems are battery operated and activate once the motorcycle is stolen and track via GPS and other systems. SBD have several members which specialise in this area and can advise on the best system and fitting of the product for your motorcycle/scooter type.

Spare Parts

Motorcycles and Scooters are often broken down for their parts to re-sell. The thieves remove any identifying marks, making it hard for the police to trace the property back to the original owner. Security marking your motorcycle or scooter using an SBD recognised forensic asset marking is another highly effective and established method of reducing theft. Trying to remove one of these forensic markers is very difficult and in many cases we only need a trace amount to establish ownership and gain a conviction.

When at home the best place to keep your motorcycle, moped or scooter is in your [garage](#) or shed

Fit a garage door defender or upgrade garage door locks. If you have a house alarm system, consider connecting the garage. Shed alarms as well as low level dusk to dawn lighting will also enhance security. For further information about alarms please visit the SBD alarm advice page on their website: www.securedbydesign.com.

Fitting a secure ground anchor also provides extra security. SBD approved motorcycle lockers are also available to store your bike at home. Storing it out of view is one of the best ways to prevent opportunist theft. Also visit www.soldsecure.com for more information.

No shed or garage? Park in the safest place you can

Park it in an area near to your home where it is well overlooked and has good lighting. If you have a drive, where possible, utilise it and support your motorcycle/scooter lock and chain, with a ground anchor. If your drive has gates, close them at night to provide a further barrier against the opportunist thief.

Installation of CCTV

CCTV can be a deterrent and help protect both your bike and home. It is important to remember that you must comply with the requirements of GDPR. More information can be found on the website below.

Secured by Design is the only way for companies to obtain police recognition for security-related products in the UK. A list of Secured by Design member companies that have security products which have achieved our Police Preferred Specification can be found on their website: www.securedbydesign.com.