



Christmas Crime Prevention Message 8

Christmas is a popular time for people to go on holiday or visit friends and relatives, so here is some advice on protecting your home while you're away.

- ❖ Ensure doors and windows are in a good state of repair and that good quality locks or bolts are fitted to all outside doors
- ❖ Ensure the locks on all windows and doors are in good working order and are locked. Any broken or defective locks should be repaired by a Locksmith registered with the Master Locksmiths Association www.locksmiths.co.uk
- ❖ Remove the keys from all windows and doors and put them in a safe place when you leave the house
- ❖ If you have an intruder alarm, make sure it's set. If you don't have one consider having an approved alarm system installed. Visit [Police Security Systems - Choose an Alarm](#) to find out all the information that you need to know to assist you in choosing the right security system for your home or business
- ❖ Use timer switches with lamps and radios to make your house seem occupied. You can also get photosensitive bulbs, which are activated when it gets darker
- ❖ Don't leave valuable items such as laptops and jewellery in view of windows. Lock valuable items away in a ground anchored safe or you could consider leaving important documents and valuable items with other family members whilst away