



Garage/Shed Security

Break-ins to garden sheds and thefts from gardens are common throughout the country. In fact, many criminals consider this type of crime to be low risk, as they don't have to force entry to your home. Many people store bikes, power tools and expensive gardening equipment in their sheds making it very attractive to criminals.

The good news is that there is a lot you can do to outsmart garden thieves. A few simple solutions can make all the difference to the security of your garden.

- Make sure the lock is in good working order.
- 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 see in.
- Secure all the equipment that you can by padlock and chain, make sure it is attached to the building – a ground anchor is preferable.
- Surrounding hedges or trees should be trimmed or cropped so as not to provide cover for thieves.
- Consider installing a garage defender, which secures the door to the ground.
- If there is a door accessing the garage, make sure the locks are good quality and preferably tested to a British Standard.
- Use a good quality closed shackle padlock on your shed door. The hasp should be attached using coach bolts or anti tamper screws rather than basic screws.
- Loop a bike lock through the handles of garden forks, spades, etc. Remember, these can be used as tools to force entry to your house.
- Securitymark your bicycles, lawnmowers, toolboxes and garden furniture, by engraving, painting or using a security marker pen.
- Install security lighting to illuminate your garden.
- Fit a shed alarm. These can be bought from online for around £10.
- Consider topping your fence or wall with a trellis, which will provide an additional barrier and provide support for climbing plants.
- Aggressive plants and shrubs, such as Berberis and Hawthorn can help deter intruders.

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 to report the matter to the police.**

For further advice visit www.scotland.police.uk