

Secure your garden?



together we can
reduce burglary in Buckinghamshire

An easy guide to shed and garden security

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By joining Thames Valley Alert, it will allow us to send you information about crimes and crime reduction advice, appeals for witnesses, police information and meetings specific to the neighbourhood in which you live or work.

For more information on Community Messaging and to sign up to alerts, visit www.thamesvalleyalert.co.uk



Love your garden?



Increase the security of your shed or garage

Sheds and outbuildings often contain valuable items that might be stolen, or tools which may be used to gain entry to your home.

- Purchase a padlock alarm, this will emit a loud noise if the padlock is tampered with.
- Keep your buildings in good condition. Burglars are looking for an easy way in and will target split, rotten or warped doors and window frames.
- Use motion sensor lights, also known as PIR activated lights-burglars don't want to attract any attention to themselves.



- You can easily strengthen the security of your shed by fitting metal grills over the inside of your shed window, reinforcing door hinges, fitting doors with non-returnable screws or coach bolts and secure padlocks.
- Secure up-and-over garage doors with padlocks through the inside runners of the door, or even fit a padlock (with hasp and staple) on both sides of the outside of the garage door secured into the frame or floor.
- Leaving tools in the garden gives opportunist thieves access your home - putting tools away and locking them securely in a garage or shed will prevent this.



- Use good a quality hasp and staple lock and padlock to secure any gates around your boundary.
- Thorny shrubs growing under windows or against access routes such as drainpipes, walls and fences create an effective natural barrier. Berberis, blackthorn, rubus and pyracantha are perfect prickly plants.
- Secure valuable items inside your shed or garage using security cables or chains with robust padlocks. Thieves like to be quick - the more obstacles you put in their way, the less likely they are to make the effort.



- Use a UV pen to mark your house number and postcode on valuable items and a permanent marker pen on more heavy duty items such as lawnmowers. If stolen and recovered by the police, items can be identified and given back to you.
- Sign up to a property register such as www.immobilise.com to create a record of your belongings.
- Ask your neighbours to keep an eye on your garden and do the same for them. Report any suspicious activity to the Police on 101 (non emergency number).

