

Don't forget the top 5 tips to target household Burglary

- 1 Keep windows and doors shut, locked and in good condition
- 2 Postcode your property with a UV marking kit
- 3 Use a light timer switch when you're not at home
- 4 Ensure car keys are safely stored away from the front door
- 5 Keep tools and ladders locked away and out of sight.

To find out more visit www.saferyork.org.uk

If you would like this document in a large print format please telephone 01904 669069.

A Guide To Preventing Domestic Burglary

Help us to keep crime low in York & Selby





Front of House

- A Use an intruder alarm**
An intruder alarm may prevent your property becoming a target for burglary. Should someone gain access to the property it is also likely to limit the amount of time a burglar spends in the property.
- B Use defensive planting**
Intruders do not like climbing over and through prickly planting. It can cause injury and leave evidence such as torn clothing behind. Plants such as Berberis, Pyracantha, Winter Sun and Rose are all suitable varieties.
- C Lock doors & windows**
When you leave your home you should always lock doors and windows. It's also worth locking your door when at home, using deadlocks if you have them. Fit a door chain and viewer and use them.
- D Use gravel**
If you can use gravel on your driveway you'll be increasing the chance of hearing someone approaching the house. Methods that raise your attention are good preventative technique and burglars want to draw as little attention to themselves as possible.
- E Don't leave keys here!**
Never leave keys under the plant pot, door mat, or somewhere obvious and accessible. Leave a spare with family, friends or a trusted neighbour.
- F Turn the lights on**
When you're not home set a timer switch to turn lights on automatically. Outside ambient lighting can be used to create a reassuring environment whilst activated by sensors will come on when movement is detected - it can be enough to deter a thief.

- G Lock your garage**
Using a bracket or an anchor fixed to the ground provides additional security for your garage. Less than 1% of vehicle thefts are from a garage so clear out the junk and start using your garage to park the car in again!

Back of the House

- H Secure your outbuildings**
A shed can be a target as it's often home to expensive tools and equipment. Fit a shed bar* to prevent the door from being removed, one-way screws in the hinges, and fit a blind to prevent people looking inside the shed.
- I Use a mortice rack bolt on double doors**
New doors are likely to have a multipoint locking system but older patio doors should be fitted with a mortice rack bolt at the top and bottom of the frame or door bolt. Also look to use an anti-lift device which is low cost and easy to fit.
- J Use a fence with a trellis on top**
Having a high fence approximately 6ft high will help deter intruders but ensure that support beams are internally facing to avoid them being used to climb on. Keep the fence in good condition and use trellis on top which will be difficult to climb over.
- K Property Mark valuable items**
Marking your valuables with a UV pen takes 5 minutes and can help the police identify stolen property. Record your marked items at www.immobilise.com
- L Keep tools out of sight & securely stored**
An opportunist burglar may work with what tools that can be found at a property. Leaving a ladder outside offers an easy opportunity, and garden tools can be used to smash windows and gain access to your home. Secure them in a locked shed or garage.