

Norfolk & Suffolk Crime Prevention

Guidance Note

Shed Security



The security of your outbuildings, such as sheds and garages, often takes second place to securing your home. However, sheds and garages can contain high value items such as bicycles, gardening equipment and tools.

Think about what you store in your outbuildings and add up the value – how much would you lose if your shed or garage was broken into and how inconvenient would that be?

A few simple, relatively cheap measures will help secure outbuildings and deter would-be thieves.

Hints and tips for securing your outbuildings:

- Avoid storing valuable items like power tools and golf clubs in your shed. These items should be kept inside your home or a secure garage.
- Remember to lock your shed or garage after use.
- Secure shed doors by fitting a strong hasp and staple (also called a 'padbar'). Secure this with coach bolts and lock the hasp over the staple with a closed shackle padlock.
- Secure shed door hinges with coach bolts or non-returnable screws.

For Further Crime Prevention Advice dial 101 and ask to speak to the Crime Reduction Officer for your area

- Further protect your shed with a 'shed bar'. This and other approved security products will improve the security of your shed or garage and can be found at www.soldsecure.com or www.securedbydesign.com
- Replace any rotten door or window frames.
- Replace broken glass panes or use perspex or polycarbonate as a more secure alternative for shed and garage windows. Use a window lock along with a strong grille or wire mesh. Use curtains or netting so people cannot see inside. Screw windows shut if you do not use them.
- Fit a good quality battery operated alarm to your outbuilding.
- Up-and-over garage doors can be secured by putting padlocks through the inside runners or fitting padlocks with a hasp and staple on either side of the door.
- Fit British Standard approved locks to all your external garage doors including integral doors which access your house.
- If you have a household alarm fitted, consider extending the system to cover your garage.
- Chain items such as bicycles, ladders and lawnmowers to a strong anchor point or to each other and use a closed shackle padlock.
- Property mark items such as drills and lawnmowers. Items can be postcoded by etching, painting, stencilling, etc.
- Register your property at www.immobilise.com this is a free web based property registration service supported by Norfolk & Suffolk Police.
- Make sure your household insurance covers your shed or garage.

For Further Crime Prevention Advice dial 101 and ask to speak to the Crime Reduction Officer for your area