

In this leaflet, we have collected a few helpful tips for you to secure yourself against some of the most-used methods among burglars today.

## Distraction burglary

Protecting yourself from distraction burglaries (when the burglar attempts to gain access to your home by distracting or misleading you) is best accomplished by being wary of strangers or unexpected callers.

If they are pretending to be officials (like police officers or trading standards), don't be afraid to ask for identification, and call their office to make sure they've been sent.

The same is true of anyone claiming to be from the gas, water, or electric companies - even if they're putting the pressure on for a "hard sell" (e.g. claims of a burst pipe), a quick call to their local office can confirm their story before they enter your home.

Where possible, use doorchains when opening the door to unfamiliar faces.

We can also provide "No Cold Callers" door stickers on request.

For more information about preventing burglaries and other crimes our **Crime Prevention Handbook** is available online:

[bit.ly/crime-prevention-handbook](http://bit.ly/crime-prevention-handbook)

Find out what's happening in your neighbourhood by signing up to **Warwickshire Connected** or **Neighbourhood Watch**:

[www.warwickshireconnected.com](http://www.warwickshireconnected.com)  
[www.ourwatch.org.uk](http://www.ourwatch.org.uk)

**You can report crime on our website:**

[www.warwickshire.police.uk/report/](http://www.warwickshire.police.uk/report/)

**In an emergency**, always call 999.

 Warwickshire Police  
 @WarwickshirePolice  
 @WarksPolice

Warwickshire  
**Connected**



# Protecting your home from burglars



**WARWICKSHIRE  
POLICE**



## Car theft

### Protect your keyless car

Using signal cloning devices, burglars can replicate the signal from your keyless car fob while standing outside of your house.

The easiest way to prevent this is to keep your key fob in a signal-proof Faraday pouch, which are widely available and inexpensive.

If purchasing online, always check the reviews first to make sure they work as expected.



### Immobilisers and trackers

Immobilisers prevent cars from moving off if they don't detect the correct key.

Trackers allow the tracking of your car by GPS.

For maximum safety, it can often be a good idea to install third-party immobilisers and trackers into your vehicle.

Their non-standard location and functionality will mean that even the more well-informed opportunist will not know how to remove them, and are less likely to bother.

Ask for fitting advice at your local garage.



## Doors, windows, and bins

### Entry by bin

A common method of access to your back garden is by using your waste bins, which give the average opportunist just enough of a boost to get over your back fence.

Make sure you're bringing your bins back inside your property after collection.



### Rear windows and doors

Backdoor entry is usually much easier as the burglar will be protected from view and will have longer to break in.

Investing in solid and secure doors and glazing is always a good choice.

A fivelever mortice deadlock is an excellent choice for your front and back doors.

Sliding patio doors should also have a multi-point locking system for maximum security.

Key locks for windows, along with laminated glass and security film, also come greatly recommended; particularly on the ground floor.



## Alarms and other technology

### Alarms

Alarm systems are easier to install than ever, with many options under £300 using wireless connections with sensors and non-invasive installation.

The best options for alarms include auto-dialling or -messaging capabilities, informing a list of chosen contacts about an unexpected entry to the building.

### Cameras

If you're shopping for security features, then cameras should be fairly far down your list.

They can be effective at tracing criminals after-the-fact, but they are not as effective at prevention as some other options above.

If you do opt for home security cameras, make sure they're from a trusted brand with a good set of reviews.

