

HOME SECURITY CHECKLIST

For members of the public

Please use this checklist as a guide when surveying your property. Start from the outside boundary of your home or premises and work your way indoors.

While completing the checklist, please take note of the advice below each question. Following this advice will help you in securing your home and reducing the risk of a successful break-in.

OUTSIDE THE HOME		
Is the house number visible from the street? A clear house number assists emergency services in quickly identifying your property.	<input type="checkbox"/>	1pt
Are bushes and shrubs in the front garden well maintained? Low growing, well maintained shrubs make potential offenders more obvious.	<input type="checkbox"/>	1pt
Has a dusk-to-dawn light been fitted at the front door, and does it work? Offender's dislike increased lighting levels, making them more likely to be seen.	<input type="checkbox"/>	1pt
Are the walls and fences adequately secure (well maintained and about 1.8 metres or 6' high)? Walls/fencing of this height makes climbing more difficult.	<input type="checkbox"/>	1pt
Has a dusk-to-dawn light been fitted at the back door and does it work? Offender's dislike increased lighting levels, making them more likely to be seen.	<input type="checkbox"/>	1pt
GARAGES, SHEDS AND GREENHOUSES		
Have the garage, shed and greenhouse doors been fitted with a lock? Locks, bolts and bars slow down and deter offenders.	<input type="checkbox"/>	1pt
Have valuable power tools and bikes been locked together using a padlock and chain? Useful to prevent access to tools that offenders could use against your property.	<input type="checkbox"/>	2pts
Have power tools and bikes been property marked or their serial numbers registered with immobilise.com? Immobilise is a free registration database for property to be identified and returned to you.	<input type="checkbox"/>	1pt
Has an alarm been fitted to the garage, shed and greenhouse? Alarms provide a deterrence and give early indications of a crime occurring.	<input type="checkbox"/>	1pt
Do the French doors have additional bolts to the top and bottom of both doors that drop into the frame? Some French doors require additional security due to their design and external hinges.	<input type="checkbox"/>	2pts
FRONT DOOR		
Has the door been secured with a multi-point lock or two British Standard locks or a combination of locks and bolts that secure the door to the frame?	<input type="checkbox"/>	2pts
Has a door chain been fitted? Chains/restrictors are useful when dealing with callers whilst effectively keeping the door locked.	<input type="checkbox"/>	1pt
Is there a door viewer or glass pane allowing resident to see who is at the door? Allows engagement whilst keeping the door locked.	<input type="checkbox"/>	1pt
Is the letterbox fitted with a deflector plate? Prevents arms accessing internal lock mechanisms.	<input type="checkbox"/>	1pt

BACK DOOR		
Has the door been secured with two British Standard locks or a combination of locks and bolts that secure the door to the frame?	<input type="checkbox"/>	2pts
Have the patio doors been fitted with a multi-point lock or with additional bolts at the top and bottom of both doors securing the door to the frame? Additional security prevents the door sliding if the locking mechanism is breached.	<input type="checkbox"/>	2pts

WINDOWS		
Are the window frames in good condition and the panes of glass secure? Poor standard windows are attractive to offenders as they can easily be breached/forced.	<input type="checkbox"/>	1pt
Have key-operated window locks been fitted? Locked windows prevent them being forced.	<input type="checkbox"/>	1pt
Have opening restrictors been fitted? Prevent offenders using windows to access property.	<input type="checkbox"/>	1pt

INTRUDER ALARM		
Has an intruder alarm been fitted and is it working order? Intruder alarms are the third most effective prevention method.	<input type="checkbox"/>	2pts
If external CCTV is installed, have you made use of the gov.uk guidance on Use of Domestic CCTV? This guidance advises on the safe and responsible use of CCTV alongside maintenance	<input type="checkbox"/>	1pt

INTERNAL LIGHTING		
When out for the evening or holiday, has a timer been installed to activate lights and the TV or radio? Signs of occupancy is the first most effective prevention method.	<input type="checkbox"/>	2pts

PROPERTY MARKING		
Are valuable portable electrical goods registered with Immobilise.com? Immobilise is a free registration database for property to be identified and returned to you.	<input type="checkbox"/>	1pt
Has jewellery been referenced and photographed, especially high valuable items? Jewellery is difficult to mark therefore photographs allow identification.	<input type="checkbox"/>	1pt
Have valuables, and the insurance reference list of jewellery, been securely locked away, e.g., in a home safe or in a safety deposit facility? Allows ease of reference for insurance claims.	<input type="checkbox"/>	1pt
If internal CCTV is installed, have you made use of the gov.uk guidance on Use of Domestic CCTV? This guidance advises on the safe and responsible use of CCTV alongside maintenance	<input type="checkbox"/>	2pts

NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH		
Are you a member of Neighbourhood Watch? If not check www.ourwatch.org.uk for existing schemes in your area, or advice on how to set up a scheme.	<input type="checkbox"/>	1pt

Once the checklist has been completed, you can check your score. A lower score indicates that significant improvement is required to secure your property.

Final score out of 36:

0-10 Requires immediate improvement.	11-20 Highlights a higher level of vulnerability to your property.
21-29 Some good areas of security but further improvements could be made.	30-36 Good level of security.

If you require further crime prevention advice, please visit <https://www.gmp.police.uk/cp/crime-prevention>.