

SHED AND GARAGE SECURITY



FIRST PRINCIPLE

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Top Tips

- Always keep your shed or garage locked. Fit an alarm if you can
- Use coach bolts to fasten hinges and hasp and staples or padbar.
- Security mark property and register it at www.immobilise.com
- Fit anchor points to secure items to.
- Avoid storing high value items in the shed.
- Avoid windows in the shed if possible.
- Use two good quality closed shackle padlocks to secure the shed door.
- Always lock integral doors between the garage and house.
- Add ground mounted locking bars to enhance security on 'up and over' garage doors.
- Use two good quality closed shackle padlocks or a 5 lever mortice and rim lock (BS3621) to secure outward or inward opening doors. Lock all garage windows and keep them covered.

Securing your shed and garage is essential, not only to protect what is stored within it, but also to prevent anything from your shed/garage being used to force entry or cause damage to your house or car. There are some simple steps below that you can take to enhance the security of your shed or garage.

General Advice

Always keep your shed or garage locked.

Always secure the shed or garage if you are not in sight of it. Never leave it insecure at night or if the house is unoccupied, even for a short time.

Where possible, ensure that the shed or garage is behind a secure perimeter.

Layers of security are important and can deter the opportunist thief.

If possible locate new sheds and garages within sight of the house.

This will provide natural surveillance over the building and will deter thefts as the offender is more likely to be seen or heard.

Use dusk to dawn lights to illuminate your shed/garage*.

If the shed/garage can be seen from the house or by neighbours or passers-by, lighting the area will ensure that any suspicious activity can be seen. Lighting can also assist CCTV. *However, if there is no surveillance over the building, lighting may actually assist the offender. Consider adding extra surveillance (i.e. CCTV) if you can.

Use coach bolts to fasten hinges and hasp and staples or padbar.

Security screws can also provide an enhanced level of security. All fittings should be secured to the solid structure of the door or shed/garage. A metal plate inside the shed where the locks attach will enhance the security.

Security mark property and register it on Immobilise

Use permanent or forensic markers to identify your property. Register all items at www.immobilise.com for free. See *the Property Marking Guidance note for more details.*

Fit anchor points to secure items to.

Security anchor points, if securely fixed to a concrete base (or wall mounted if specified) will provide a secure point to chain valuable items to. See www.soldsecure.com or www.securedbydesign.com for more details or anchors and chains.

Have an alarm fitted and use it.

If you already have a house alarm, ask your supplier if it is possible to add any external buildings to your existing alarm. If your shed or garage is behind a secure boundary, it is also worth asking if external sensors can be fitted so that you would be alerted of any suspicious behaviour in your garden/driveway. See *Security Alarms and Alarms Policy guidance for more information.* Alternatively, stand-alone battery operated systems may be suitable.

Check your shed/garage regularly.

If you notice damage or attempts to force entry, report it to police, warn your neighbours and take steps to enhance the security.

Shed Security

Avoid storing high value items in the shed if it isn't totally secure.

Even with the best locks, the average

garden shed will not deter a determined burglar for long. It is best therefore to store items of high value (cycles, fishing gear etc) in your garage or house. Alternatively considering purchasing a purpose built Sold Secure or Secured by Design storage container. See

www.soldsecure.com

www.securedbydesign.com

Avoid windows in the shed.

If your shed already has a window, at least cover it with an old curtain or newspaper so that a burglar cannot see what is inside. If possible, secure the window with a wooden or metal sheet or grille to prevent it being smashed or removed to gain entry.

Use two good quality closed shackle padlocks to secure the door.

Use Sold Secure or LPS 1654 Issue 1:2013 SR1 padlocks to secure the door top and bottom. As a minimum, padlocks should be at least 6cm wide, hardened steel, have at least 5 pins and be closed shackle.

Garage Security

Always lock integral doors between the garage and house.

Keep the integral door locked even if the external doors are locked. The integral door should be of the same security standard as all of the other exterior doors in the property.

Add ground mounted locking bars to enhance security on 'up and over'

garage doors.

Locking bars, secured to a concrete base on the drive, provide a visual deterrent. (see Secured by Design or Sold Secure for more details). If you have a secure pedestrian access door as well as the up and over door, consider drilling a hole at the front of each runner and inserting a padlock to deter the door from being opened.

Use two good quality closed shackle padlocks or a 5 lever mortice and rim lock (BS3621) to secure outward or inward opening doors.

Use Sold Secure or LPS 1654 Issue 1:2013 SR1 padlocks to secure the door top and bottom. As a minimum, padlocks should be at least 6cm wide, hardened steel, have at least 5 pins and be closed shackle. If you prefer, use a 5-lever mortice lock and rim lock conforming to BS3621. To check if it conforms, look at the plate on the lock. If you have two doors, always ensure that the slave (securing) door is firmly secured with mortice bolts top and bottom prior to locking.

Lock all windows and keep them covered.

If you have windows on your garage, keep them locked and use curtains or newspaper to cover them up so that a burglar cannot see what is inside. If you are having a new garage built, avoid having windows.

First Principle: Related links

Ask the Police

Official Police Resource. The Ask the Police website provides you with information on a wide range of non-emergency policing matters.

askthe.police.uk

Secured by Design

Official UK Police initiative that combines the principles of 'designing out crime' with physical security.

securedbydesign.com

Sold Secure

Dedicated to reducing the risk of crime by assessment of security products.

<https://www.soldsecure.com/>

Crimestoppers

An independent charity that gives people the power to speak up to stop crime 100% anonymously, by phone 0800 555 111 or online.

<https://crimestoppers-uk.org/>

Victim Support

Covering the whole of Norfolk and Suffolk, a free, confidential support service specifically designed to help victims and witnesses of any crime.

Contact us on:

Phone: 0300 303 3706 (weekdays between 8am-5pm)

Email: nsvictimcare@victimsupport.org.uk

Web: www.nsvictimcare.org

Socials: @nsvictimcare

Call us on 101. Always dial 999 in an emergency

To see the full range of information go to:

suffolk.police.uk/firstprinciple or

norfolk.police.uk/firstprinciple

Or alternatively use your mobile phone to scan this QR code.

