



# Crime prevention advice for **Vehicle Security**

**safe in...**  
warwickshire

Much crime against motor vehicles can be prevented by taking some simple security measures. These reminders may seem somewhat basic, but they can be surprisingly easy to overlook during the hustle and bustle of everyday life.

## **Cars and Vans:**

- Lock the doors and close the windows and sun roof every time you leave the car or van.
- Don't leave anything on display – even a jacket can seem like an appealing target if a thief thinks there might be something in the pockets. Take your belongings with you or, if this isn't possible, lock them in the boot.
- If you have a removable satellite navigation device, remove this wherever possible. Remember to also remove the support cradle and suction pad, and wipe away any marks left on the windscreen or dashboard.
- Never store vehicle documents in the car or van.
- Use a steering lock and additional alarm in older vehicles. If you drive an older van with fewer built in security features, consider installing additional protection such as slamlocks to automatically lock the door when it's slammed shut, deadlocks which operate by launching a bolt into a receiver fitted to the opposing body section when operated by an external key or van lock protection plates. Each of these locks is relatively inexpensive to buy and available from a range of online suppliers or fitters.
- Keep your keys out of sight, even in your house.
- Park in well-lit areas that are visible to others or covered by CCTV. If you have a garage, use it.
- Either remove tools from your vehicle overnight, or chain and padlock items to the inside. Marking tools with a smart 'UV' pen can be a very effective way of tracking down stolen goods should the worst happen.

## **Motorbikes:**

- Always lock your bike and set the alarm if it has one.
- When leaving your bike for some time, try to lock it to something secure. Use a ground anchor if possible.
- Have the vehicle marked with its vehicle identification number (VIN). Put this on as many parts of the bike as possible.
- Never leave your keys with the motorbike/scooter, even for a short time. Always keep your keys in a safe place when you are at home.
- When out and about, try to park your motorbike/scooter in parking spaces especially made for them. These can have stands and security loops that your bike can be attached to.

## **More information can be found at:**

[www.warwickshire.police.uk/article/3748/Vehicle](http://www.warwickshire.police.uk/article/3748/Vehicle)