

SECURING YOUR SHED



Advice from Nottinghamshire Police's Pre Crime Unit

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Introduction

Sheds are often targeted by thieves because they are not designed to store valuable equipment and property - they were originally designed to house potting plants. Their fairly flimsy construction makes them easy to break into via the door, windows, walls or even the roof.

However, many homes have little outside storage space, so the shed inevitably becomes a place for storing items that are not wanted indoors.

We are working hard to prevent criminals from targeting sheds and properties, but you can play your part in making sure it is as difficult as possible for them.

Security Advice

Shed door security

Fit a tough pad bar (also called hasp and staple) secured with coach bolts and a strong padlock to the shed door.

Replace standard hinges with strap hinges secured by coach bolts or use security screws on existing hinges.

Internal security

Fit a battery-operated shed alarm.

Chain tools, cycles and other valuable equipment together or to a ground anchor using a high security chain or cable and a good quality padlock. This is the most effective way of securing property in a shed as long as the chain and padlock are strong enough.

Have you marked the contents of your shed? Make a note of serial numbers and take a photograph of your items.

Register them at **www.immobilise.com** so police can prove they are yours if they are stolen and later recovered.

Consider using security marking systems such as Selectamark or SmartWater.

Shed window

It is better not to fit windows to sheds. However, if yours has a window, fit a window grille and/or a frosted window film to stop a potential thief seeing what's inside your shed.

Garden security

Install outside security lighting operated by either movement sensor or photo electric cell (Dusk till Dawn light) to the garden area, giving coverage to the shed.

Secure the access to your shed and garden by locking gates and using thorny bushes next to walls and fences to prevent climbing.

Remember to secure gardening tools and equipment as they could be used by a criminal to break into your home.

Don't leave ladders easily accessible outside. Chain them up to a secure point with a strong chain and padlock.

Make sure the shed is secure on its base. Use coach bolts or similar to secure it.

**Contact Nottinghamshire Police's Pre Crime Unit
for more advice on all of these security options.**

Nottinghamshire Alert

Nottinghamshire Alert is a system which allows Nottinghamshire Police, Neighbourhood Watch in Nottinghamshire and other organisations that work for the public to send community safety messages to you quickly and efficiently.

If you are interested in getting updates on major incidents, advice on crime prevention and community safety and alerts about criminals operating in your area, make sure you are registered with the system.

You can report antisocial behaviour in your area and receive responses from police about the incident you have reported and find out how to join a Neighbourhood Watch scheme or set up your own in your street by registering.

What do I get?

- A totally free service — you can control your message settings and choose to receive alerts via email, text message to your mobile phone or recorded voicemail. You can unsubscribe at any time.
- Information about crime trends, incidents and appeals from authorised police officers and police staff.
- Report suspicious and antisocial behaviour (not crime), receive updates and responses about them.
- Start, manage or request to join a Neighbourhood Watch scheme in your area.
- Configure how, when and which messages you'd like to receive.

If you want to know more about Nottinghamshire Alert, contact Nottinghamshire Police's Pre Crime Unit.

Tel: 101, extension 800 3011

Email: nottinghamshirealert@nottinghamshire.pnn.police.uk

To register for Nottinghamshire Alert, visit www.nottinghamshirealert.co.uk

If you would like a paper copy of the registration form, call **101** or visit your local police station to request one.

**For more advice on crime prevention contact
Nottinghamshire Police's Pre Crime Unit
Arrow Centre
Hucknall
Nottinghamshire
NG15 8AY**

Tel: 101

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**Tell us what priorities you want your local police to focus on with our online survey
www.neighbourhoodprioritysurvey.co.uk**

**If you have information about criminals operating in your area call
Crimestoppers anonymously on
0800 555 111**