

Holiday Security Checklist:

Make Sure Your Home Is Secure



LATHAM'S STEEL SECURITY DOORSETS

Empty homes are prime targets for burglars, who see these properties as opportunities to commit burglary without fear of identification or disturbance.

Often the crime is not discovered until holidaymakers return home, adding an extra level of difficulty to police investigations.

A burgled home can be incredibly distressing for all involved. To avoid becoming a victim of burglary while on holiday, follow these simple precautions, and enjoy your holiday stress free.

1. Secure your garden shed.

Garden sheds and garages often contain tools that could help a burglar gain access to your property. Many garden items and machinery have value of their own. Securing any outside storage buildings will keep these items safe while restricting their access to any potential intruders.



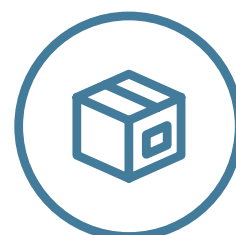
2. Inform the neighbours.

Trusted neighbours are an excellent resource. Let your closest neighbours know your holiday plans for an extra pair of eyes on your property. Ask them to keep a lookout for any suspicious behaviour in your absence.



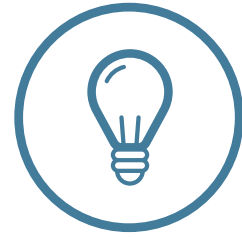
3. Cancel deliveries.

Newspapers or milk bottles amassing outside your house are a sure sign that nobody's in. Post is usually fine as it is delivered through your letterbox, but cancel or postpone deliveries that you know will sit on your doorstep.



4. Automate lights.

Setting up a timer on your lights takes no time at all and can give the appearance that your home is occupied. Burglars aim for properties they think are empty. Don't make your house one of them.



5. Secure valuables.

In the event that a burglar does break into your home, you want to make it as hard as possible for them to steal your valuables. High worth items and objects of sentimental value should be hidden or, better still, secured in a safe or other hideaway, where they can't be accessed.



6. Motion detector lights.

Burglars like darkness. They also like gaining access to buildings in out-of-site places. A motion detector light is a quick, clever, cost-effective way of shining a light on anyone moving in the vicinity of your property. Place them at strategic locations for best effect.



7. CCTV.

Similar to motion detector lights, CCTV cameras will deter potential burglars who do not want to risk being recorded or identified on camera. Nowadays these are also inexpensive, and can be installed with relative ease. CCTV footage can also be used in court to help provide evidence against a burglar, in the event that a burglary does take place.



8. High security locks.

Most doors come with locks as standard, but burglars are often adept at passing these. Don't make it easy for the burglar; upgrade your locks for stronger, more resistant access points and increased home security.



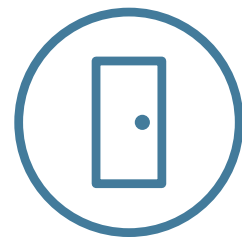
9. Social media.

If you're away from home for two weeks, don't tell the world! We are increasingly used to sharing every detail of our personal lives through social media. Savvy burglars are aware of this, and can use social media sites to scan for prospective targets. If you must share your travel plans through Facebook or Twitter, for example, do so on private profiles, with security settings that prevent complete strangers from reading your posts.



10. Steel Security Doors.

One of the best ways to secure your home is through the installation of steel security doors. Nowadays these can be made to suit a huge range of residencies and styles. Stop the burglar at the first hurdle by preventing them access to your home altogether.



11. Close windows.

It's easy to forget an open window especially in the summer. If you're off out on holiday, don't give burglars a free pass to your home.



12. Double check.

It's easy to overlook small things in the run up to your holiday, but it doesn't take more than five minutes for you to scan the house for locked doors and windows, concealed valuables and correct timers.



For more information about securing your property against burglary, call Latham's Steel Security Doorsets today on +44 (0) 1384 220 050 [or contact us online.](#)