



Crime Prevention Advice Thefts from vehicles

We would like to make you aware that there have recently been incidents of thefts from vehicles in your area.

Our aim is not to scare you, but to raise your awareness, and to ask you to be extra vigilant. Your vehicle is a shop window to a thief; it only takes a few seconds to steal property, even if an alarm is fitted.

Please help us to help you by ensuring your vehicle is secured and any item of value is removed when you are not present. The vast majority of these thefts are opportunist; offenders who take advantage of vulnerable vehicles – those that are left insecure or that have items on display.

To reduce the risk of being a victim of car crime, motorists are urged to take the following simple precautions:

- Make sure the doors of your vehicle are locked and the windows and sunroof shut, no matter how hot the weather.
- If possible, park your vehicle in a well used area, and if you have a garage try to use it. Make sure it is parked in a location where it is in clear view of other members of the public, not obscured from sight and therefore more vulnerable.
- Wherever possible, do not leave anything in your vehicle, including in the boot.
- Make sure you do not leave a jacket or coat behind when you leave the vehicle. It may be of very little value to you, but a thief may think it has been used to hide a laptop or handbag and break into your car to find out.
- If you have a removable music system, take it with you - don't forget to take your CDs as well.
- Make sure you do not leave documents in your vehicle which have your address on.
- If you have a satellite navigation system, take it with you – don't forget to remove the cradle and wipe the suction marks from your windscreen. Do not store your home address on your device – if you do, save it under a different location.

Report any suspicious activity to the police on 101 or anonymously via the Crimestoppers charity on 0800 555 111.

For further advice please contact your local Safer Neighbourhoods Team on 101 or visit www.hampshire.police.uk and type in your postcode to find our local policing pages.

For non emergencies dial 101, in an emergency dial 999.

Speak to your local Safer Neighbourhoods Team when you see them out and about.

