# Protecting your home

**keeping safe**

How to protect your home from burglars.

## Easy Read Factsheet

Derbyshire is one of the safest places in England.

The chances of your home being burgled are very low.

This factsheet will give you tips on how to keep your home safe.

Fit strong locks on your front and back doors.

Ask your locksmith for locks that meet the latest British Standards.

# Always keep your front and back doors locked.

✓ Keep your doors locked even when you are at home.

✓ Fit a safety chain to your door and use it when answering the door.

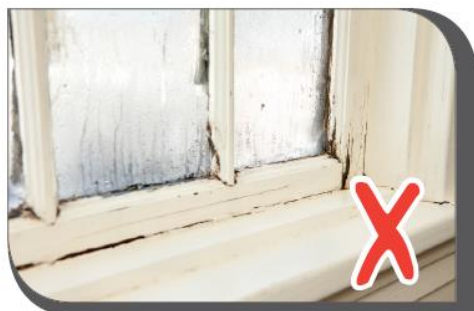# Fit window locks to all your windows.

✓ Keep your windows locked even when you are at home.

✓ Check that your patio doors are secure and locked.

## Check your doors and windows are in good condition.

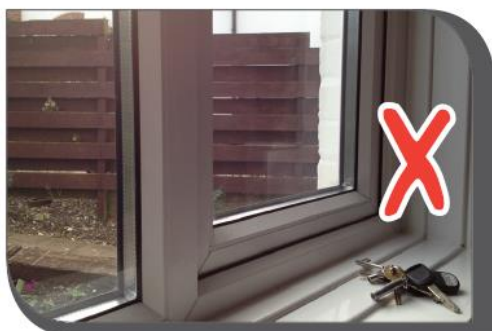Check the frames as well as the doors and windows. Fix things that are broken.

If you move house get new locks fitted to your front and back door.

## Lock your doors and windows properly when you go out.

Never leave your doors or windows open.

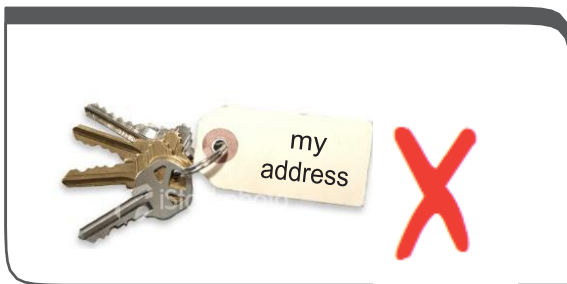## Never leave anything valuable on view from outside your home.

Don't leave keys, phones, money or jewellery in reach of a letterbox or window.

# Look after the spare keys to your home.

Only leave spare keys with a trusted neighbour, friend or relative.

Put your spare keys on a keyring that stands out. This makes them easier for people to find.

Never put your keys on a tag that has your address written on it.

If people found them they would be able to get into your home.

Never leave spare keys in an easy place for people to find like under a flowerpot or a doormat.

# Never leave large amounts of cash at home.

Always keep large amounts of money in the bank.

# Mark your valuables like computers, phones and bikes with a property marker.

Marking your property will help the Police identify your things if they are found.

You can place signs around your home to show that your property is marked.

Contact the Police for more advice. **Phone:** 101

# Have a light outside the front of your home.

The light should go on at night and off during the day.

# Have a light on inside your home if you are away or out for the evening.

You can use a timer to make sure the light goes on and off at different times.

# Keep your home safe while you are away.

Cancel milk, newspapers and other deliveries.

Lock your doors, windows, shed and garage.

Don't talk about going away when strangers can hear you.

Don't talk about going away on things like Facebook or Twitter

Ask someone you trust to check your home is okay while you are away.

My number

Give a phone number where you can be contacted to a neighbour you trust.

Tell your neighbour when you are coming back home.

## Join your local Neighbourhood Watch Scheme.

There are many Neighbourhood Watch Schemes in Derbyshire. They are free to join.

They are run by local people working together with the Police to help keep themselves and their neighbours safe.

People get to know each other and look out for each other.

They sometimes put signs up to help to stop crime.

Phone 101 to find out more.

## Have a burglar alarm that people can see.

Turn your burglar alarm on when you leave the house.

# Always tell the Police if a crime has happened to you.

Phone 101 to talk to the Police.

Phone 999 in an emergency.

The Police will help you stay safe.

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If you know anything about a crime and do not want to give your name call Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111.

**Derbyshire CRIMESTOPPERS**
**0800 555 111**
Call anonymously with information about crime

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Go to www.derbyshire.gov.uk/keepingsafe to see all of our Keeping Safe Factsheets

If you feel you are being picked on you can also talk to Stop Hate UK by phoning this number.

**STOP HATE CRIME**
**0800 138 1625**
**24 HOUR HELP LINE**

**DERBYSHIRE County Council**

**MacIntyre** Providing support...your way

**Reps on Board**