

## Protect your vehicle from crime

Vehicle crime can include the theft of vehicles, theft of contents from vehicles or interfering with a vehicle with the intent of trying to break into it.

Check list:

- Always lock your car - for however short a period of time
- Close your windows and sunroof
- Remove valuables from the car - don't hide things in the glove box or boot
- Store car ownership information at home, not in your car
- Never leave anything on display when you leave your vehicle. Even an old coat or a plastic bag can tempt a thief
- Wipe off any tell-tale sat nav marks left behind on your windscreen
- Double check the central locking has worked and your car is secure
- Where possible, park your vehicle in a busy, well-lit area
- When parking at home, always use your garage if you have one, and lock both your vehicle and your garage. If you don't have a garage, try to park on your drive or in a well-lit, open place
- Never leave your keys in the vehicle, even if you are just leaving it for a few seconds
- Mark all your equipment, like your car stereo, with your vehicle registration number
- Using secure (theft resistant) number plates can make your plates less attractive to thieves.

Where you park can make a big difference to the safety of your car and your belongings. Look out for car parks approved by the police [Safer Parking \(opens in a new window\)](#) scheme. You can find them by looking for their distinctive 'Park Mark' signs.

For further advice, visit:

<https://www.police.uk/crime-prevention-advice/vehicle-crime/>

<http://www.sussex.police.uk/advice/protect-your-home-and-belongings/vehicle-crime/>

The national **Ask The Police** website <https://www.askthe.police.uk/content/@1.htm>.

**If you see anything suspicious please report it immediately on 999.**

**If you have any information on those involved in crime call the non-emergency number 101.**