



## Is your Shed Secure

Sheds can make appealing targets for burglars, as valuable items like lawnmowers, tools and bicycles are often stored in them.

You can reduce the chances of being burgled by following some simple steps:

Think about what you keep in your garage or shed. Quite often garages and sheds hold very expensive tools and equipment which can be easily stolen or used to break into your home.

### Basic Security Tips

Never leave garage or shed doors unlocked, especially if your garage door has links to the house. A thief may use the garage as an alternative point of entry working out of sight where he/she is unlikely to be seen.

Make sure doors are strong enough not to be kicked in and fit strong padlocks.

Visibly mark your property. This is very quick and simple to do. It can deter burglars and help police recover your property if it is stolen.

Invest in a length of strong chain and loop this through the handles of tools, lawnmowers and bikes before padlocking to a fixed point in the shed or garage. A burglar would struggle to escape with this awkward load.

If you own a ladder, lock it in the garage or shed. If you don't have the space, chain or padlock it to something secure..

Use shed alarms. They are relatively cheap and easy to install.

Good Garden security can also make your shed or garage safer.

Make sure you have strong fencing and secure gates.

Plant thorny hedges or prickly shrubs near fencing to stop people climbing over.

Install good lighting to deter a burglar or draw attention to one.