

London Borough of Richmond upon Thames  
Community Safety Partnership

Supporting you...

Introducing the Richmonds

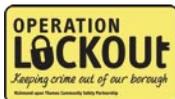


Don't be a  
Sat-Nav sucker!

Secure  
your  
vehicle



'Keeping crime out of our borough'



Richmond | Community  
upon | Safety  
Thames | Partnership



# Security tips for your car

## Vehicle security and damage

The London Borough of Richmond upon Thames Community Safety Partnership are working towards reducing motor vehicle crime but we need you to help us by:

- 1 Thatcham approved alarms and immobilisers are an excellent deterrent.
- 2 Don't leave anything on display - it's a prime invitation to passers-by. Even an old coat or plastic bag can tempt a thief. If items have to be left in the vehicle, put them out of sight at the start of your journey.
- 3 Portable 'sat-nav' systems are often held in a cradle attached to the windscreen or dashboard on full view, so take it out of the vehicle and place the cradle out of sight in the boot.
- 4 Cradles alone indicate to offenders that vehicles have 'sat-nav' systems, so ensure that you remove all traces by wiping off the suction marks from the windscreen.
- 5 Property mark the 'sat-nav' with your postcode and house name or number. Make a note of the make, model and serial number and register it free of charge on the National Property Register at [www.immobilise.com](http://www.immobilise.com).
- 6 Get a music system that's removable or has a front that can be taken off.
- 7 Driving documents and personal correspondence could help a thief to sell your vehicle or provide a cover story if stopped by the police - don't keep them in the vehicle.
- 8 Some thieves break into houses to steal vehicle keys. Always keep the keys in a safe place. Don't leave them in the hallway or kitchen, as these are the obvious places a thief will look.
- 9 Alloy wheels should be secured with locking wheel nuts, which have been tested to withstand attack and meet Category 4 Thatcham approval.
- 10 Steering wheel locks, which have been tested to withstand attack and meet Category 3 Thatcham approval, should be applied every time you leave your vehicle.
- 11 Number plates can be secured with one-way security screws, to prevent them being removed and used in crime. Also available is a new type of anti-theft plate which is bonded on and breaks up when tampered with.
- 12 If you have a garage at home, use it. If you don't, try to park in a well lit open place.
- 13 Look for public car parks that are part of the police approved 'Park Mark' Safer Parking Scheme.
- 14 Always lock and close - doors, windows, boots, and sunroofs before leaving the car and make sure you use all security devices fitted.

Please ensure you report any damage or anything unusual you see in your road to the police, if it is happening or you feel threatened on **999** or the non-emergency number **101** after the event.

Keeping your car and contents safe is simple so let's not make a criminals life easy. Most criminals can be easily outsmarted by taking simple steps to secure your car.

**Let's not give criminals an easy ride**

For more advice, visit [www.met.police.uk](http://www.met.police.uk)