

Home Security

Practical skills

The measures with real deterrent effect, ranked.

Roughly by deterrent effect per pound spent.

Measure	Effect
Locking doors and windows	Largest; many entries are unforced
Good external lighting	High
Visible alarm box	High
Quality locks to standard	High
Gravel paths, thorny planting	Moderate
Timer switches when away	Moderate
Cameras / video doorbell	Moderate deterrent, good evidence
Not advertising absence online	Moderate

Do not leave keys near the letterbox, and never leave a spare under a mat or a stone. Both are checked first.