



Bike security

Bikes can be an easy target for thieves - don't give them an easy ride. Basic crime prevention can help prevent it from being targeted.

- Always lock your bike when you leave it, even if it's only for a few minutes.
- It is worth investing in a good quality lock and, for even better security, use two different types of locks such as a D-lock plus a robust chain and padlock.
- Always lock it to a secure post or immovable object.
- If possible lock your bike at recognised secure bike parking that's well covered by good lighting and CCTV.

- Don't forget security starts at the garden gate.
- Don't leave your bike in the garden if you don't have adequate security.
- If you're storing your bike in a shed, garage or outbuilding make sure it has a good quality lock and an alarm.
- If your bike is kept in a common stairwell, ensure the door is always locked and secure and the door entry system is working. Make sure you lock the bike too.
- Security mark the frame with a UV pen – or forensic technology such as SmartWater.
- If you use SmartWater you just need to make a mark with the liquid – UV lights will detect SmartWater and if it has been registered identify the property as belonging to you.
- Use your initials, postcode or another mark that is unique to you.
- Make a note of the serial number, this is normally located underneath the bike and should be written down or photographed and kept somewhere safe.
- Consider registering your bike with a property registering database such as: www.bikeregister.com
- Consider insuring your bike, especially if you have a high value bike or there are a number of bikes in the household.

For the latest crime prevention advice visit:

www.westmercia.police.uk/cp/crime-prevention/

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If you need to report a non-emergency crime or incident to us, you have the option of reporting it online: **www.westmercia.police.uk/report** (call 101 if you cannot report it online).

For crimes in progress call 999.