



# PROTECT YOUR VEHICLE FROM THEFT

**CRIMINALS ARE USING BOTH SIMPLE AND  
SOPHISTICATED METHODS TO STEAL MOTOR VEHICLES.**

**HELP PREVENT YOUR VEHICLE FROM BEING TARGETED  
BY THIEVES.**



**METROPOLITAN  
POLICE**

**BE SAFE**

## Protect your keys

- Thieves are using equipment to pick up the signal from smart keys, even if they are kept inside your home. Once captured, the signal is used to open your vehicle and steal it.
- **Keep your smart key, and any spares, in a security pouch when not in use – either at home or when out and about.** This can be bought cheaply, and prevents thieves from scanning your key.

## Protect your vehicle

- Whether you have a smart key or not, thieves can break into your vehicle and use other methods to steal it, including creating a blank key (using its on board diagnostic port) or substituting components.
- **Consider using a steering wheel or gear stick lock to help protect your vehicle against these types of theft.** This is a great visual deterrent for thieves and makes it hard for them to drive away.
- **Double check your windows and doors are closed and locked** every time you leave your vehicle, even if you're only gone for a few minutes. Thieves will often try door handles on the off chance that they are unlocked.
- **Keep your keys in a safe place** - remember thieves burgle houses to steal vehicle keys. Don't leave them near a door or window or in obvious places such as hallways or kitchens.
- **Fit a tracking device** to your vehicle to help recover it if stolen.

## Parking

- If you have a garage at home, use it. If you don't, park in a well-lit open place.
- Use public car parks that are part of the police approved 'Park Mark' Safer Parking Scheme.

For more information on how to keep your car secure and other crime prevention tips, visit [www.met.police.uk/crimeprevention](http://www.met.police.uk/crimeprevention).

**In an emergency dial 999.** For all other police related enquiries visit [www.met.police.uk](http://www.met.police.uk) or call **101**.