



## **Cyprus Joint Police Unit Crime Prevention Advice**

**In 3 out of 10 burglaries, thieves do not have to use force; they get in through an open door or window. You can reduce your chances of becoming a victim of burglary by adopting the following advice:**

**Windows** - In just under one third of burglaries, thieves gain access through an unlocked door or open window. Make sure doors and windows are locked, particularly when leaving the house.

**Lighting** - Leave a light on to give the impression there is someone at home. Timer switches can be fitted to operate radios and lights when you are out.

**Burglar alarms** - Visible burglar alarms make burglars think twice.

**Keys** - Never leave a spare key in a convenient hiding place such as under the doormat or in a flowerpot - a thief will look there first. Never leave keys near a window or door, (thieves can steal car keys using a hook or magnet on a stick pushed through the letterbox).

**Secure all doors** - If your front and back doors are not secure, neither is your home. Thieves are most likely to target doors when attempting to break in. Check the condition of the frames, hinges and glass panels. Fit devices such as chains and door viewers.

**Garages and sheds** - Fit sheds and garages with strong padlocks and ideally an alarm. Always lock ladders in the garage/shed or secure them to a fixed object to stop a thief using them.

**Shared accommodation** – Lock your door even when using the kitchen/ablutions. Don't leave keys in your door, or lying about in any communal areas. Avoid putting your name or room number on your keying in case it gets lost or stolen. Ensure the main entrance to the block is secure. Be aware of strangers in or within close proximity to the building and report any suspicious activity to the main guardroom and or the police.

**Protectively mark your property** - It can deter burglars because it is harder for a thief to sell on marked property and may also help police secure a conviction.

**Good neighbours** - If you see anyone acting suspiciously in your neighbourhood, call the police.

**Strangers** – Be alert to people loitering in residential streets. If it is no one you recognise, call the police.

**Please be vigilant, if in doubt report it!**

**All emergencies - call 112  
CJPU Police Station 2596 3300**