

# Keep your vehicle safe and sound

## Top Tips

Safer

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PARTNERSHIP

### 1. Lock it!

Make sure your car is always locked whenever leaving your vehicle unattended. You may not be insured if the car is left unlocked!

### 2. Close the windows and sunroof

Don't give thieves the opportunity to go 'fishing' for your things by reaching in through open windows by hand, or using items like bent coat hangers to open doors.

### 3. Remove your keys

Never leave the keys in the ignition, even if you're just stopping for a newspaper, paying for fuel, or defrosting your windscreen on the driveway. Again, you will probably not be insured!

### 4. Take it with you

Opportunist thieves find your mobile phone, change for the car park, sunglasses, watches, coats, bags, and even medication, irresistible, even if you think they are of no value. It goes without saying that wallets, handbags, purses and credit cards should never be left in unattended vehicles.

### 5. Lose your Sat-Nav

Remove your sat-nav and its holder, and wipe away any suction marks as these could alert a potential thief to the possibility of a sat-nav, smartphone or other device being stored inside the vehicle.

### 6. Remove your documents

Never leave vehicle documents in your car; don't make it easy for a thief to sell your car or provide a believable cover story if stopped by the Police.

### 7. Keep keys safe at home

Be aware of your keys and store them safely. Don't leave them lying around or visible in pockets. Don't leave them visible on a window sill in your home or near the front door where they could be 'hooked' out through the letterbox.

If you have a keyless system, make sure you keep the key out of communication range; if you don't, your vehicle will remain unlocked.

### 8. Secure things on the outside

Things left on roof and tailgate racks, in roof-top boxes or tool chests can easily be stolen when your vehicle is parked. Secure these things by using padlocks or cable locks and secure them to the vehicle, but always try to avoid leaving belongings in them if you can.

### 9. Park Safely

Whenever you can, park in well-lit and busy areas where the chances of a thief being caught increase, so they will probably steer clear.