



Cyprus Joint Police Unit Community Policing

An article by Cpl Murray Pickering, RAFP:

Looking after your home

A lot of burglaries can be prevented. Most are committed by opportunist thieves, and in two burglaries out of every ten the thief does not have to force his way in because a door or window has been left open. Burglars like easy opportunities. They don't like locked windows because breaking glass attracts attention. They don't like security deadlocks on doors because they cannot open them from the inside and they have to get out through a window.

A set of simple precautions can reduce your home in being a target. CJPJ would ask that you check your home against the advice and strengthen the weak spots as soon as possible.

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

Small windows – Even small windows like casement windows, skylights or bathroom fanlights need locks. A thief can get in through any gap larger than a human head.

Spare keys – Never leave spare keys in a hiding place like under a doormat, in a flowerpot or inside the letterbox – a thief will look their first.

Carports and sheds – Be aware that upstairs windows can be accessed by climbing onto the carport or shed. Lock tools and ladders away so that a thief cannot use them to break in.

Side passage – Take steps to prevent a thief accessing the rear of the property where he can be work with less chance of being seen.

Attractive property – Never leave cash, valuables on open view in your property; lock them out of sight.

Shared accommodation - Follow all the security measures described. You also need to be careful to keep your room locked when you go to use 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.

Always lock the main entrance doors behind you. Try to avoid letting anyone you don't know into the building along with you. Be aware of strangers around corridors to the building and report any suspicious activity to the main guardroom and or the police.

Please be vigilant, if in doubt report it.

All emergencies - call 112
CJPJ Police Station 2596 3300