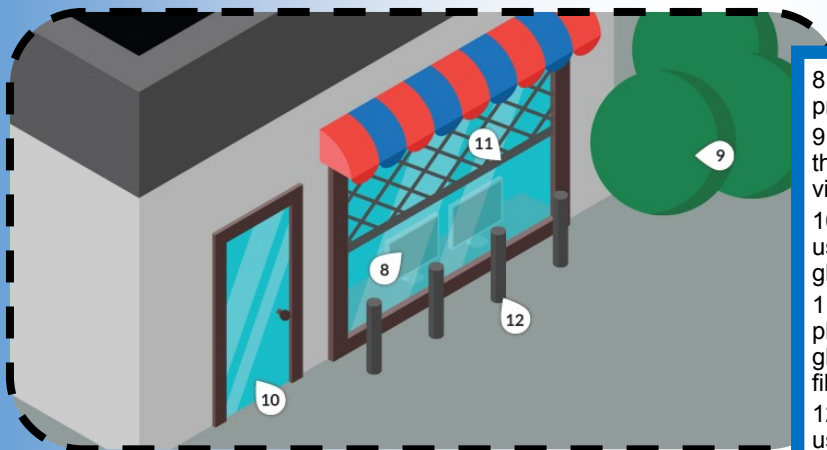
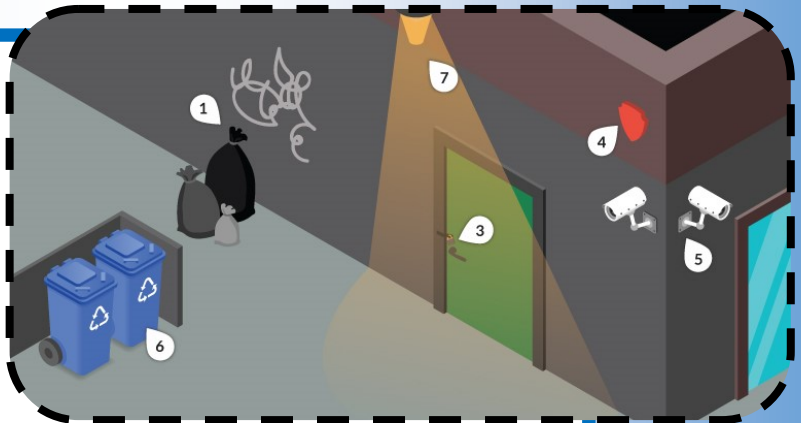


Reduce The Risk Of A Burglary When Leaving Premises Unattended

The Covid-19 outbreak has created an unprecedented challenge to society, and we recognise some business premises are changing the times that they are open and have staff on their premises. With this in mind we ask you to read the following advice to reduce the risk of your business suffering a break in.

1. A well-maintained exterior free of rubbish and graffiti will reduce the likelihood of your business being targeted by criminals. So try to remove any graffiti. If any appears on a nearby wall or structure, call the local council who will send their specialist team.
2. Identify areas that may be vulnerable to forced entry and have them made more secure.
3. Make sure any service doors are locked and secure when not in use.
4. Make sure you have a monitored alarm and that it's fully operational. For advice and approved suppliers of alarms and CCTV, visit the [National Security Inspectorate](#) and the [Security Systems Alarms Inspection Board](#).
5. Make sure your CCTV is operational, provides facial recognition as well as good quality images and covers any vulnerable areas. 24-hour digital CCTV is also highly recommended. You'll find useful advice on buying surveillance equipment, from the [Surveillance Camera Commissioner](#).
6. Make sure that wheelie bins are stored away as these can be climbed on to gain access to the building, especially via the first floor.
7. Make sure there is sufficient lighting around the premises, especially loading areas.



8. Consider moving high-value goods and alcoholic products away from windows overnight.
9. Prune any overgrown bushes or nearby trees, as they can provide cover for anyone trying to hide from view.
10. Doors and windows are particularly vulnerable – use security-rated products to make them more burglar-resistant. For more details visit [Secure by Design](#).
11. External shutters, although effective, may require planning approval. Use attack-resistant laminated glass in sturdy frames where possible. Alternatively, film can be applied to glass to make it more resilient.
12. Anti-ram raider bollards mounted externally can be used to protect frontages but may require planning approval.

13. Try not to keep cash on the premises and always use a bolted-down safe with a time lock and anti-tamper sensors that trigger an alarm. Consider reducing the cash float if trade is lower than normal, and bank cash regularly. Some banks have 'night safes' that can be used to deposit cash.
14. Make sure stockrooms are locked and, where possible, keep stock out of sight. Consider reducing stock kept on the premises if the premises is to be unstaffed for long periods of time.
15. Smoke-generating devices that activate on unauthorised entry create a smokescreen and foil burglary. They're designed not to damage stock.
16. Make sure your keys are not left on the premises and that only designated staff have access. In case of emergency, make sure there's a list of key holders who can be contacted.
17. Repair any damage to property you notice. If CCTV cameras appear to have been moved then put them back in the direction they should be facing. Consider adding transparent security domes to protect them.
18. Consider putting up a visible external notice that the premises is monitored and checked regularly, and nothing of value is kept on the premises.

