**Here are some tips on improving shed/garage security:**

• Lock ladders inside your garage or shed to stop a thief using them

to reach upstairs windows. If there is no room in your garage or

shed, chain or padlock them horizontally to a sturdy bracket on an

outside wall

• Don’t leave tools in your garden like spades. Ask your neighbours

not to either.

• Never leave a garage or garden shed unlocked, especially if it has a

connecting door to the house. A thief could get in and work on the

door inside without being seen.

• A good quality ‘hasp & staple’ with a padlock is important on

all sheds and side doors to garages. Remember to choose a

‘hasp & staple’ that is bolted to the door and frame for extra

strength.

Glue smeared over the heads of screws in the external hinges of

shed doors or the side door of a garage may stop a thief from

simply unscrewing them. Alternatively, replace a couple of the

screws in external hinges with a special type that cannot be

unscrewed *(sometimes called ‘clutch-head’, ‘anti-tamper’ or ‘coffin’*

*screws).*

• When your door is secure, don’t forget the windows. Perhaps the

most effective way of securing a shed window is to fit internal bars

or grilles.

• Battery or mains powered shed alarms are now commonly available

in DIY stores. If items within the shed are physically secured, how

many thieves would spend time trying to release these items when

an alarm is ringing?

Consider having lockable steel boxes fitted to the floor to store your

tools in, or anchor posts fitted to the floor to secure larger tools and

equipment.

• Ensure bikes are locked to an anchor point within the shed or

garage. Only use a good quality lock that has been tested against

attack, preferably a ‘D’ lock. Look for ‘Sold Secure’ approved locks,

‘Gold rated’ devices offer the highest level of security.

• Visibly and permanently mark property you keep in sheds and

garages.

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