

# Allotment Security



## Key Points to Consider

- Avoid leaving anything valuable on your allotment
- Secure your shed and the perimeter
- Keep vigilant and report crimes and anti-social behaviour
- Keep serial numbers, an inventory and photographs of anything valuable, safe at home

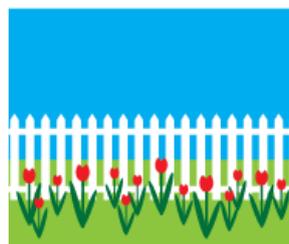
**There are a number of things you can consider to improve the security of your allotment.**

### Perimeter Protection

Perimeter fencing should be in good condition, without holes or gaps for a criminal to get through. Consider planting thorny shrubs inside the fence at low level to deter climbing. However, do not plant thick vegetation where it faces public areas as open surveillance into

your allotment is a big deterrent as the criminal will not want to be seen.

Trim back and thin out vegetation or trees that are overgrown and adjacent to perimeter fencing or gates as they may be used to easily climb into and out of your allotment.



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Ensure that the public facing side of the gates are screened to prevent being used to climb over. Do not place waste heaps or recycling bins/composters or other large containers next to perimeter fencing otherwise the criminal may use the spoil as a climbing aid and it could help hide the criminal from view.

### Vehicle Access

Vehicle gates should be strong and be unable to be lifted off their support brackets.



Strong key operated locks should help prevent opportunists but if necessary could also be reinforced with a security chain. **Choose police approved 'Sold Secure' gold** standard products and padlocks to no less a standard than CEN Security Grade 4.

### Sheds

Sheds will be less likely to be targeted if they are in view of passers by or neighbouring properties.

Doors, frames and walls should be in good condition. Hinges should be secured with threaded coach bolts and back plates or large back washers.



Close shackled padlocks should be used on doors. Windows should be secured and preferably blocked up with internal metal mesh.

Floors and walls can be lined with plywood or metal sheeting to make them stronger and more resistant to attack.

Fix chains/anchor points to walls/floor to secure heavy/valuable items and tools. If no heavy items are available to chain tools to, fill a bucket with concrete and embed a chain. Try to avoid leaving expensive items and tools in your shed. Where possible use tamper proof screws on locks and hinges or drill out heads of screws once fixed in place.

## Secure Storage Container

Consider investing in one large secure metal alarmed container for the storage of valuable items for all allotments.



Doors should face toward public areas or properties. Key security must be controlled.

## Property Marking

Visibly paint/mark property with postcode or other identifying marks. Note serial numbers and record/register on [www.immobilise.com](http://www.immobilise.com)

Keep photos of valuable equipment.

Consider setting up an asset register for the whole allotment scheme with a designated person responsible for maintaining records and registering valuables.

Consider holding regular property marking days

involving the local police and other agencies.

## Signage

Fix in place weatherproof signs, which are clearly visible to users and passers-by, These should display rules such as who is allowed in, opening hours, contact details of allotment provider and how to report crime or ASB.

## Allotment Associations & Members

Is adequate information provided on what is expected of allotment holders regarding their responsibilities?

Are tenancies regularly reviewed regarding maintaining shed security and upkeep?





Sir Robert Peel created the Metropolitan Police in 1829. He set out nine principles for policing. The First Principle was:

**“To prevent crime and disorder, as an alternative to their repression by military force and severity of legal punishment.”**

[Click here for further Crime Reduction Advice](#)



All your policing questions answered

<https://www.askthe.police.uk/content/>



**Secured by Design. (SBD)** The official UK Police flagship initiative combining the principles of 'Designing Out Crime' with physical security. We advise that you look on the SBD website for all of your Security products. <http://www.securedbydesign.com/>



More Security Products can also be found at:  
<http://www.soldsecure.com/>

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Speak up. Stay safe.

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100% anonymous, Always

Crime Stoppers is an Independent Charity that gives people the power to speak up to stop crime 100% anonymously <https://crimestoppers-uk.org/>



Help after crime—Contact Victim Support for free and confidential support  
<https://www.victimsupport.org.uk/>

**Call us on 101. In an emergency always dial 999**



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