



Avoiding That Initial Attraction

Without that initial attraction most crimes could be avoided, statistics show that most crimes are opportunist crimes; yes they may go out intending to commit crime but the victim is not yet chosen. So if there is no attraction then you may not become a victim.

What is the attraction?

- The shed or garage with minimal security and tools visible through the window.
- A lone person down a dark street talking loudly on their illuminated new iPhone.
- The house in darkness with the side gate flapping open, welcoming.
- That accessible open window or door.
- The purse sitting in the open handbag on top of the shopping trolley.
- Group sitting chatting at a bar table with a mobile phone just sitting there on the table.
- The bag on the back seat of an unattended car, even though the bag may only contain your sports clothes, the thief does not know this until he/she has smashed the window and stolen it.
- The tradesman's sign written van parked on the dark drive by the gate with accessible doors and unprotected pipe tube on the roof.
- The partygoer that's had too much to drink and is unaware of his/her surroundings.
- Shiny new ride on lawn mower sitting on the grass in full view of the road with no postcode/security markings visible.

The above is just short list I am sure you can think of more.

What can you do? STOP, think like a thief, spot the attraction and, where possible, remove it.

For Crime Reduction Advice contact Colchester's Tactical Crime Prevention Advisor using the police non-emergency telephone number 101.

