



Home Improvements That Improve Security

1. Doors:

- a. If you are looking to replace doors including Patio or French doors, ensure that the door complies with PAS 24 and that any glass fitted is laminated glass. Be careful that you do not get bamboozled with words such as safety glass etc.
- b. Where possible fit a door with hooks as opposed to bolts, with a minimum of 3 hooks in the door - ideally this would be 5.
- c. If you are looking to replace any cylinders / locks, ensure that they are 3 star TS007 compliant locks or for other doors (such as wooden) that they are compliant with BS 3621 or BS8621.

2. Windows:

- a. If you are looking to replace windows, ensure that they are PAS 24.
- b. Laminated glass on all accessible and ground floor windows.

3. Alarms:

- a. They are a proven deterrent however failure to activate your alarm may invalidate any potential insurance claim.
- b. When looking for accredited companies and installers check SSAIB / NSI websites.
- c. Wherever possible fit the boxes making them as visible as possible. In addition to the main box fit a dummy box at the back / rear of the property.
- d. Make sure you use the alarm at all available times, including when you go to bed.

4. CCTV:

- a. Ensure that the system is fit for purpose and the images are evidential quality.
- b. When purchasing CCTV you need to consider Data protection and ICO guidelines.
- c. When looking at installing / replacing a system, look to the SSAIB for approved installers.
- d. Maintenance of the system is pivotal to its success, i.e. the storage and date and time checks.
- e. Lighting may potentially affect the quality of the images, so consider the systems compatibility.

5. Safes:

- a. Do not keep valuables in the favoured hiding places, i.e. sock drawers / under the bed or sink etc.
- b. Consult with your insurance company prior to purchasing a safe.
- c. Consider the location of the safe and making sure that they are not in obvious places and they are fixed to a solid surface. Install the safe in accordance to the recommendations.
- d. Consider the safe's insurance rating and the value of the items stored within.

6. Climbing Aids:

- a. When fitting scaffolding near your property or on neighbouring properties consider the additional risk your home is at as a result.