

Remove it, lock it or lose it

Preventing theft from Motor Vehicles

Thefts from cars are often due to valuables being left in plain sight or doors and windows being left unlocked. Thefts can occur at any time, so it is important not to present an easy opportunity to thieves.

In order to steal, thieves will smash a car window or break locks, and the cost of repairs may exceed the value of the stolen items. Follow these simple steps to help reduce the risk of thefts.



VICTORIA POLICE

Motor Vehicle Theft Checklist

Remove all Valuables	Tick
Do not leave any valuables in your vehicles. Take them with you if possible.	<input type="checkbox"/>
If you must leave valuables in your car – place them in your boot without being seen.	<input type="checkbox"/>
Remove GPS units and wipe the suction mark off the window	<input type="checkbox"/>
Do not leave personal documents such as your registration or drivers licence in your car. These items contain your home address	<input type="checkbox"/>
Do not leave house keys or garage door openers in your car – they may be stolen and used in home burglaries	<input type="checkbox"/>
Lock Up	
Lock your car – always physically check it is locked, even when parking at home or just leaving your car for a moment	<input type="checkbox"/>
Close all windows – including sunroof	<input type="checkbox"/>
Tradespeople – lock external tool boxes and equipment if they can't be removed	<input type="checkbox"/>
Secure Your Car	
Park in a locked garage if possible	<input type="checkbox"/>
Park off the street in your driveway if you don't have a garage	<input type="checkbox"/>
Park in a well-lit area – thieves do not want to be caught breaking into cars, so increase the risk that others will detect them	<input type="checkbox"/>
Install a car alarm	<input type="checkbox"/>
Join your local Neighbourhood Watch and be an active part of crime prevention in your community	<input type="checkbox"/>
Secure Your Number Plates	
Replace screws on each plate with an anti-theft one way screw	<input type="checkbox"/>
One-way, anti-theft screws can be installed using a standard screwdriver, but require a special tool to remove	<input type="checkbox"/>



Key Crime Prevention Tips

- **Remove** all valuable items when you leave your car
- **Lock** all doors and close all windows before leaving your car
- **Park** your car in a well-lit and secure area
- **Secure** your number plates with one-way, anti-theft screws

Check Regularly

- Regularly check that your number plates remain secure and have not been tampered with.
- Report any theft of number plates to your local police.



You will need:
Four (4) one-way screws
Flat Bladed Screw Driver

Commonly Stolen Items

- Money, wallets, credit cards
- Tools and power tools
- Computers, mobile phones, cameras, GPS and other electronic devices
- Handbags, jewellery, sunglasses.

In The Event of Theft

If your valuables have been stolen from your car, report the theft to police on Triple Zero (000).

If you require immediate police attendance, call police on Triple Zero (000).
If you have any information regarding a crime, call Crime Stoppers on 1800 333 000.
For further crime prevention information, visit the Victoria Police website at: www.police.vic.gov.au. Visit the Victorian Government Community Crime Prevention Website at: www.crimeprevention.vic.gov.au. This project has been funded as part of the Neighbourhood Watch Australasia Crime Prevention Program.



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