

Motorcycle and scooter

Crime prevention advice

Don't make it easy for thieves to steal your bike and profit from it

A stolen motorcycle can be broken up for parts and sold off as the parts are not easily identifiable. The identity of the bike can also be changed and sold for far less than its actual value. It can also be stolen and ridden around as a field bike for fun by offenders. As a biker or scooter rider, this would be the last thing that you would want to happen to your pride and joy.

What makes a motorcycle a good target for thieves? Any vehicle which is insecure, poorly protected and easy to steal will be attractive to offenders. Given half a chance they will try to steal insecure machines.

Consideration should be made to where you park the bike or scooter both at home or away from your property. Don't park it in an area that is secluded or poorly lit at night. Choose a place where lots of people are passing who may see someone try to steal it. Use a chain and lock to attach the bike to a solid immovable object such as a lamp-post or ground anchor.

Use a motorcycle cover to conceal the bike, this makes it stand out less to thieves. It is always advisable to use security products of a high standard. Warwickshire Police and West Mercia Police recommend products tested to Sold Secure standards to deter thieves. Products to this standard are destruction tested and have been found to provide very high levels of security for your machine.



Warwickshire
POLICE



West Mercia
POLICE

Think about where you store your motorcycle/scooter

There are now products available which reach the Secured by Design standards such as the shed pictured. When putting your bike away, don't just rely on the structure of the shed or garage to protect it, use the other security products as well. A shed alarm, along with a warning sign attached to the shed, can also be a deterrent for thieves.

The use of ground anchors to Secured by Design standards should be considered in sheds and garages

These should be securely installed into a solid base such as a concrete floor and not secured to the wooden floor of a shed for example. These should be used in conjunction with at least a 16mm link chain and quality lock, again to Sold Secure/Secured by Design standards. There are many alarm systems for machines available on the market. Choose one that has a motion sensor fitted and meets the Thatcham standard for tracking in particular. See www.thatcham.org for further details or ask at your local reputable dealer for advice. Property marking is a very good deterrent for thieves who wish to steal the bike for spare parts.

There are a number of unique forensic marking products on the market that can be applied to the bike in numerous places, such as the engine, body panels and frame etc. These products are recorded with the property marking company and can be traced to the rightful owner by police. It is advised that visible warning stickers are placed on a protected bike telling would be offenders that there are security measures in place. Warwickshire Police and West Mercia Police recommend forensic marking products to Secured by Design standards.

www.securedbydesign.com



Look for the 'Sold Secure' or 'Secured by Design' logos



Physical security of the vehicle

Following on from information given by offenders, it has been stated that motorcycles and scooters relying on locks of poor standard or incorrectly installed can be breached. As an example, a padlock and chain which is placed around the front wheel only and left on the ground can be smashed off far easier by a hammer attack, than if it was placed off the ground and It is also suggested that disc locks to the 'Sold Secure' standard are placed on the rear wheel in conjunction with other security measures on the bike. This makes it more difficult to access by offenders. **Do not leave spare keys on the vehicle. These can be easily found and used to steal the bike.**

Credit: West Yorkshire Police

Warwickshire Police and West Mercia Police do not endorse any products and the images are shown for illustrative purposes

Call 101 for further advice or visit
www.warwickshire.police.uk / www.westmercia.police.uk