

Keeping your home safe whilst you're away

The following tips were taken from West Yorkshire Police advice on keeping your home safe, shared on their Social Media and website channels. The following list is purely meant as helpful guidance* you must exercise your own judgement and discretion in carrying out any of these measures.

1. DO NOT LEAVE WINDOWS OPEN

It's surprising the smallest window a person can fit through, so ensure you close all windows before you depart on your travels. If you need to let fresh air in, ensure only top windows are put on night vent.

2. ENSURE ALL DOORS ARE LOCKED

Take a quick lap around the house before you leave and give those door handles one last check. Make sure everything is locked up tight before you leave your home. It's also a good idea to keep your doors locked, even whilst you're at home!

3. USE A TIMER ON YOUR LIGHTS

This is an amazing and wonderfully simple invention - a timer plug for your table & floor lamps. This is a really effective way to make it look like someone is home on an evening. You can set them to come on in the morning and the evening, and best of all they only cost a few pounds. The key is to make it look like someone is home!

Shop Local Try Cliff's Hardware, Stainburn Parade, Moortown if you'd like to shop locally. Alternatively, they are available on Amazon, John Lewis, most supermarkets.

4. PUT A RADIO ON A TIMER

Another super effective way to make it seem as though you are home. Plug your radio into a timer plug (as above) to come on during the day or night, whenever you like. Think Macaulay Culkin in Home Alone having his party with the mannequins. Plus it'll keep your kitty company :)

5. PUT VALUABLES OUT OF SIGHT

This may seem an obvious one, but you'd be surprised how many laptops and other valuables are left out on the coffee table for all to see. So please remember to pop any big ticket items or, in deed money, out of sight.

6. CURTAINS OR BLINDS

This is really down to personal preference. In summertime it is often advised to keep your curtains open, as that way neighbours can see through your house. However, in winter, when it is dark longer than it is light, it makes sense to close your curtains - especially if you are following steps 1 - 5 above.

7. PUT CHRISTMAS PRESENTS OUT OF VIEW

As lovely as it looks to have your presents neatly stacked under the Christmas Tree. If you have your tree in a room with a view, it's advisable to pop those presents out of sight when you go away. Out of sight, out of mind!

8. PUT KEYS OUT OF SIGHT

Out of sight is always the key here! if you are leaving your car at home, please remember not to leave your house & car keys in view. It's advisable to leave them in a drawer or cupboard - rather than on a ledge or hook by the front door. Remember a coat hanger through the letterbox can lift them right out. If you have a car with a fob to start the engine, you can now purchase signal blockers to leave them in.

*Please note, the Kitty Caller can accept no liability for any break-in or theft at your residence.