



Wednesday 26 July 2017

FOR IMMEDIATE USE

## Warmer weather leaves the door wide open for summer burglaries

As the summer season is now in full swing, unlocked doors and open windows may be an open invitation for opportunistic intruders.

There was a 31% increase in the value of claims for unforced burglary between summer and winter months last year\*, with many thefts occurring while people are at home.

Lloyds Bank Home Insurance is therefore offering helpful hints to protect properties over the summer period:

- Don't leave valuables within plain sight or where they might be reached through open windows
- Make sure you have adequate home insurance which also covers belongings in the garden
- Keep receipts for valuable items to help in the event of a claim
- Mark items with an ultra-violet pen to help trace them if stolen
- Don't leave a spare key hidden outside as most burglars know where to look
- Install a burglar alarm in a prominent place and always set it at night and when leaving your property
- Make sure doors are locked at the end of the day, especially if children have been running in and out of the house
- Think before posting holiday pictures on social media, this can make burglars aware that your house is empty
- Keep gardens maintained and trees pruned to remove hiding places for burglars
- Put away tools and equipment that could be used to break into homes
- Lock away items such as garden ornaments, furniture and bikes when they are not being used
- Keep windows closed when not in the room

**Senior Claims Manager Tim Downes says:** "As the mercury rises over the summer months, we start to see a similar spike in summer burglaries, as people are more focused on relaxing and unwinding with friends and family.

# PRESS RELEASE



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“While summer is all about enjoying the warm weather and longer days, people should still remain alert when it comes to their homes.

“If homeowners aren’t careful, burglars can easily reach in through open windows and doors for small items such as jewellery, smartphones, and car keys.

“Taking a few simple steps will take the sting out of summer meaning sun-worshippers can enjoy soaking up the rays.”

Ends

**Notes to editors:**

\*For data purposes summer months are Apr – Sept, winter months Oct-Mar. Based on Lloyds Bank Home Insurance in-house claims data.

Lloyds Bank Home Insurance, Home Insurance Premier and Home Solutions are all underwritten by Lloyds Bank General Insurance Limited.

Lloyds Bank Home Solutions has a 5 Star Defaqto rating.

For more information visit [www.lloydsbank.com/insurance](http://www.lloydsbank.com/insurance)

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