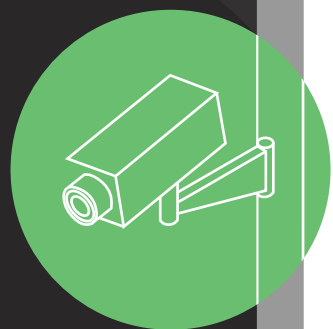


8 WAYS TO HELP KEEP YOUR HOUSE SAFE

Home is where we switch off and relax. But we can only do that when we feel secure. Here are a few things we can do to avoid making a claim and help prevent other security problems.

BE ALARMED.

It is possible to pay a lot for alarm systems and motion sensors, but there are good options on the market which won't cost you an arm and a leg.



DO YOU HAVE NEIGHBOURS?

They really can help. Ask them to keep an eye on things. Get them to open and close curtains, and remove any post from the letterbox. Alternatively, get a timer switch to turn your lights on and off at different times.

IS THERE A LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH?

They're not just for older people with twitchy curtains. Joining one could potentially reduce insurance claims.



WRAP UP FOR WINTER.

Insulating lofts, pipes and tanks help prevent damage, avoid hassles and reduce the risk of needing to make a claim.



GET A LADDER.

Blocked gutters can cause damp problems. Have a look yourself or find someone to check them. But keep ladders locked up or put away, to make sure intruders can't use them.

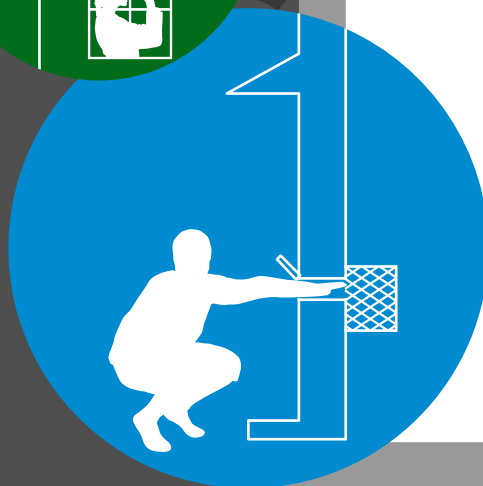


GET OUT THE GARDENING SHEARS

That lovely big hedge may look attractive, but burglars love being able to break in unnoticed. Consider cutting it back. Crunchy gravel could be better than paving, too.

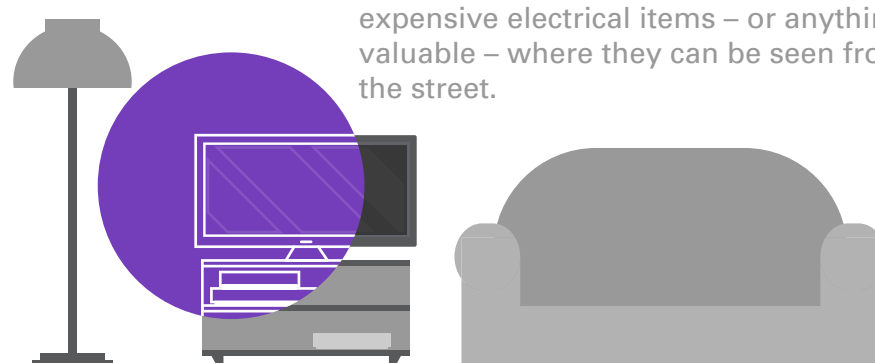
INSTALL A CAGE.

A cage over the letterbox will prevent anyone fishing for keys or hooking something through to open a lock from the inside.



MAKE SURE YOU CAN'T SEE THE TV.

Don't tempt burglars by putting expensive electrical items – or anything valuable – where they can be seen from the street.



REFERENCES:

<https://www.lovemoney.com/news/19726/the-most-common-home-insurance-claims>

<https://www.theguardian.com/money/2016/feb/25/burglars-protect-property-locks-security-cameras>