



Avon and Somerset Police

THEFTS OF AND THEFT FROM MOTOR VEHICLES

Due to recent activity regarding theft of and theft from motor vehicles, please take a moment to read the below guidance.

- Do please share this where possible.
- Don't Leave Valuables on Show
- It might sound obvious but leaving items on show is an invitation to the opportunist criminal - mobile phones, satnavs and mounts, power leads, money, wallets, handbags, sunglasses, coats, jackets, and bags should always be removed from the vehicle or hidden well out of sight.
- Hide Keys & Fobs
- Keys and ignition fobs should be kept safe and out of sight and reach. A common way to steal a car is to take the keys or ignition fob, so never leave them in the vehicle, even if it is unattended for a moment. When at home ensure that your keys or ignition fob are kept well away from windows or doors so that they cannot be seen by a potential thief, and never leave them close to the front door where they can be accessed through letterboxes. A Faraday pouch is also useful if you have a keyless entry vehicle to help block the signal.
- Lock Doors & Close Windows!
- Always lock and close the windows of your vehicle when you leave it unattended - be this on the drive, the petrol station forecourt, when de-icing your vehicle in the winter or when getting a ticket to park. An unlocked vehicle is the easiest to steal or steal from.
- Secure your Number Plates
- Fit theft-resistant number plate fittings. Stolen number plates are commonly used to hide the identity of stolen vehicles. Use one-way clutch head screws to secure number plates.