



## Home security

One of your responsibilities when renting a home is to look after it and not cause damage. You are also expected to protect your home from crime – both to avoid the damage that burglars can do, and to protect you and your personal property from assault and theft.

### Top Tips

- Make sure that all doors and windows are lockable. Lock them at night and when you go out.
- Look after your keys – don't leave them near doors and windows (could a burglar 'smash and grab'? and don't leave them 'hidden' outside the house, e.g. under a plant pot.
- If you live in a block of flats, don't leave the main outside door open and don't let people in if you don't know them
- Mark your property with a UV pen so that it can be identified if stolen
- If you are going away, ask a trusted friend or neighbour to keep an eye on your home and make sure that post is pushed through the letterbox fully
- Beware of bogus callers – some burglars pretend to be from the water company or say they are a gas engineer to gain access to your property. They usually have a fake ID. If you get a caller claiming to be from a utility company and saying that they need to come into your home to check something make sure that they are who they say they are.
  - Ask them to post their ID card through the door and phone the company (get the number from the phone book or your last bill) to check them out. You could also have a look at the vehicle they came in – is it sign-written with the company logo and name?
- Register your valuables with the National Mobile Property Register at [www.thenmpr.com](http://www.thenmpr.com)