



The Garden – Safety and Security

Here are ten tips aimed at making your garden a safe and secure place.

- A circuit breaker should be used with electrical equipment such as lawn mowers and hedge-cutters.
- Tools and equipment should be cleaned and locked away after use.
- Particular care is needed to secure the ladder, if one is used when tree-pruning. A ladder stood on soft ground will be unstable.
- Do not use a chainsaw unless you have received professional training.
- When gardening, use appropriate clothing, which might even be protective clothing, for example Totectors[®] if building a rockery.
- **Is your anti-tetanus up-to-date?**
- Keep out intruders, who might intend to steal from the garden or access your house from the rear. Locked gates, high fences and walls, pyracantha or holly hedging are all good deterrents. Wheelie bins could be used for climbing into gardens.
- Little can be done to stop a thief who has entered your garden from taking valuable plants or shrubs. However, garden furniture could be shackled when not in use and statuary surrounded by soft earth is difficult to lift.
- Thieves know that sheds often contain hundreds of pounds worth of garden and d-i-y equipment. Chain items together and property-mark them with your post code or SmartWater. A shed alarm (also usable for garages) acts as a deterrent and the battery operated ones are not expensive.
- Deter night-time intruders by installing security lighting.

Note. The above tips are given in good faith but should not be regarded as a substitute for advice obtained professionally.