

RURAL CRIME ... PREVENTION...

EQUINE SECURITY

In the rural environment good security is essential and is an effective deterrent against crime. Grazing animals are potential targets for criminals and should be treated like any other valuable property.

This leaflet is designed to help you prevent becoming a victim of theft and provide reassurance that there are many simple safety measures you can take to protect your horse and equipment.

Secured by Design



Official Police Security Initiative

Secured by Design (SBD), the national police crime prevention initiative, works with Police Forces around the UK and many other organisations to achieve sustainable reductions in crime to help people live in a safer society.



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HOW TO PROTECT YOUR FARM/FIELD PERIMETER:

- Reduce access by removing all gates and entrances that are no longer in use and replacing them with a permanent fence or other barrier
- Secure all gates with good padlocks
- Repair fencing promptly to prevent/restrict any future unauthorised access

HOW TO PROTECT YOUR HORSE AND PONY:

- Report all suspicious activity involving your horse or pony to the police
- Take good, clear pictures of your horse, from all sides, in winter and summer
- Remove head collars when grazing in the field
- Mark your horse or pony using Freeze branding or microchipping
- Horses born before 01.07.09 and do not have an existing passport, must be microchipped when the passport is issued
- Keep the passport and a photocopy in a safe place. It will help with proof of ownership

HOW TO PROTECT YOUR TACK

- Ensure that tack room doors are of solid construction with suitable locks
- Hide the contents from anyone outside using protective grilles on windows if appropriate
- Mark or customise your tack so items are easily identifiable and secure to their racks when not in use

HOW TO PROTECT YOUR TRAILERS AND HORSE BOXES:

- Park trailers and horse boxes as close to your premises as possible, preferably out of sight from nearby roads
- Remove keys when not in use
- Fit wheel clamps and/or locking posts or consider an alarm
- Block in your trailer etc. with a vehicle or other object to prevent it being towed away
- Mark or customise your trailers so they are easily identifiable

SUSPICIOUS CALLERS:

- Beware of any suspicious callers – strangers may not always be what they seem. Check their identity and if in doubt, note their description and any vehicle they may be using and call the police. Your call may be important and save others from the opportunist thief



RURAL WATCH SCOTLAND:

Watch Schemes work well as a crime prevention and detection tool but are also extremely valuable in terms of enabling local communities to share information, allow agencies to send out relevant crime alerts, and empower local communities to be more resilient.

To receive local ALERTS about crime and other threats in your area, simply click the green JOIN button on the Rural Watch Website www.ruralwatchscotland.co.uk.

FURTHER INFORMATION:

A complete guide to "Security in the Rural Environment" can be accessed from the Police Scotland website, http://www.scotland.police.uk/assets/pdf/keep_safe/rural-prevention-booklet

Comprehensive crime prevention advice can be obtained from your local policing team by telephoning 101.

Remember: If you can think of a way of defeating your existing security measures, so can the criminal.

Any suspicious activity should be reported to Police Scotland by calling 101, or alternatively information can be passed anonymously to Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111. For emergencies call 999.



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