

Van Owners

Crime Prevention Advice

**BE
VIGILANT
TO TOOL
THEFT**

Tools can be extremely valuable and if stolen can have a huge impact on small businesses. Wiltshire Police would like to remind all van owners to remove their tools from the vehicle when it is left unattended for long periods of time and overnight.

Follow these simple steps to help prevent you becoming a victim:

- Check doors are locked – criminals can use devices which block the key fob signal so don't assume your vehicle has locked properly. Consider installing additional locks for added protection.
- If you have a garage, use it. If your van is parked on a driveway, consider installing security lighting. Alternatively try to park in a well-lit area.
- Consider fitting an alarm or internal security cage to store tools that are not being used. If the equipment is portable, take it with you.
- Don't leave tools in an unattended vehicle or overnight - put a sign in the window stating they have been removed.
- Visibly mark tools using an engraving/chemical etching kit or a forensic marking kit - put a sticker in the window to say you have done so.
- Keep a list of tools, together with any serial numbers and identifying marks - this can help trace them back to you if they are stolen and recovered. You can do this at www.immobilise.com.
- Secure access to building sites – fences and gates help prevent unauthorised entry. If you have any suspicious visitors call the police non-emergency number 101.
- If you're offered tools for sale be alert and consider that they may be stolen. If you're suspicious contact the police.

If you have any information about vehicle crime in Wiltshire call Wiltshire Police on **101**. Alternatively, you can call Crimestoppers anonymously on **0800 555 111**.



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