

Norfolk & Suffolk Crime Prevention

Guidance Note

Garage Door Security



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Our Priority is You

Whether your garage is used for storing your car or household items, its security is important. Here are some things that you can do to help make your garage more secure.

Up and over doors

- Fit a pair of good quality bolts to either side of the bottom of garage door. We recommend that these are fixed using coach bolts that cannot be tampered with from outside, and that a good quality closed shackle padlock is used. Fitting locks too high up on a door will not adequately secure it, as the door can be bent upwards at the bolt point.
- There are also many specially designed garage door locks that can be fitted to the floor that will also prevent the door being lifted from the bottom.
- If you are choosing a purpose designed garage door lock, pick one approved by Secured by Design or Sold Secure.
- **REMEMBER!** A single lock fitted to the bottom centre of the door may still not prevent the corners from being bent over, especially on older

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doors. If this is the case, consider fitting locks to both sides of the door (making sure it doesn't interfere with your car's wheels).

Double leaf doors

- Make sure that your door is in good condition and the frame is securely fixed to the structure. Repair or renew rotten wood or consider replacing the door completely.
- Use coach bolts on external hinges to prevent them being unscrewed.
- Fit a pair of good quality security hasp and staples and closed shackle padlocks 1/3 up and down the door. We recommend items attaining the higher levels of security accredited by Sold Secure.
- Drop bolts fitted to the bottom of the door will not only prevent the door swinging back when open but will add some additional reinforcement to the door when bolted shut.
- If your doors have glazing, consider installing bars behind them.

Automatic garage doors

We **DO NOT** recommend carrying out any work on automatic garage doors without first consulting with the manufacturer. Additional works may void any warranty and could cause the door to malfunction.

When speaking to your door manufacturer, you will also be able to check the standard that the door is manufactured to. If the door is manufactured to either LPS 1175 and rated SR1 or more or STS 202 (BR1), you may not need do anymore to them (although these are the minimum standards we recommend).

Replacing your garage door

If you are considering replacing your garage door, here are some tips to help you ensure it is secure and right for your needs. The standards apply to up and over and roller shutter doors only.

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- If you are buying an up and over or roller shutter door, we recommend that doors are manufactured to either the current issue of LPS1175 SR1 or STS202 (BR1). This is the minimum standard for domestic properties. If you have high value items in your garage, you may wish to choose a higher rated door.
- Choose doors that are approved by Secured by Design. These doors have also been tested independently and are recommended by the police. Again, your security rating needs may vary.
- Buy from reputable manufacturers and installers preferably one accredited by Secured by Design.
- There is not a standard for Double Leaf Doors. If you are considering double leaf doors, pay attention to the door quality, standard of the hardware used and buy from a reputable company, preferably one accredited by Secured by Design.

Integral garage pedestrian doors

The integral garage door of modern properties is usually a fire door but is not usually very secure.

We **do not** recommend carrying out any work on a fire door as it may affect its performance.

We recommend using a suitably accredited tradesperson to replace the complete door set with one manufactured to PAS24-2012.

Choosing an installer

We strongly recommend that you use manufacturers and installers accredited by Secured by Design (www.securedbydesign.com) and locksmiths who are members of the Master Locksmiths Association (www.locksmiths.co.uk) Details of local and national companies can be found at the respective websites.

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