



## Motorbike crime



Motorbikes are popular targets for thieves because they can be easily sold or broken up for parts, which are harder to trace. Mopeds and scooters are at much greater risk of being stolen than motorbikes – they made up just 26% of the total of motorcycles registered but accounted for 56% of all thefts. Generally, low capacity motorbikes were also shown to have a high risk of theft.

To combat this, you need to ensure your motorbike is as unattractive as possible to any potential thieves. No single product can cover all possibilities, but if you invest in both mechanical and electronic security devices, you will greatly reduce your risk of becoming a victim of this particularly disruptive type of theft.

This can be done by following the steps listed below.

- When leaving your bike, always lock you it, put the steering lock on and set the alarm if it has one. Consider getting a professionally fitted combined alarm and immobiliser (you can find an approved installer through the Vehicle Systems Installation Board at [www.vsib.co.uk](http://www.vsib.co.uk) ). Sold Secure and Thatcham can advise you on the best products. ([www.soldsecure.com](http://www.soldsecure.com) & [www.thatcham.org](http://www.thatcham.org) )

- Parts marking: By putting the vehicle identification number (VIN) on as many parts of a motorcycle as possible will make the motorcycle less attractive to opportunistic thieves and will increase the chance of getting the motorcycle back if it is stolen and then recovered.

- Parking: Making use of motorcycle parking provision where available will greatly improve security options with no extra cost to you. Wherever possible riders should use spaces that have stands or security loops to secure the vehicle to, but always to something that cannot be moved. Owners should look for secured motorcycle parking spaces in public car parks and make use of the Police approved 'Secured Car Parks' scheme. ( [www.saferparking.com](http://www.saferparking.com) )

- Invest in a D-lock or a strong steel cable to attach your bike to security rails or ground anchor. If there are no ground anchors available, bring this to the attention of your local authority.

- At home, if you have a garage, use it. As above, secure the bike to a fixed point with a D-lock and cover your motorbike or scooter when you are not using it and try to park it out of sight from the road if possible.

NOT PROTECTIVELY MARKED