

USING TECHNOLOGY

Technology can help keep your home safe and it doesn't have to be complicated or expensive.

Here are some tips on using technology to help secure your home.

Closed Circuit Television (CCTV)

CCTV linked to your phone lets you see images of real-time activations.

Lighting

Lighting can put offenders off and welcome you home.

Alarms

An alarm system and alarm warning signage can be an effective deterrent.

Valuables

Mark valuables, keep a record of them and consider using tracking technology.



CCTV

- Doorbell and security cameras are widely available at hardware stores and security equipment retailers.
- Battery powered cameras can be installed quickly and easily with no drilling or wiring needed.
- Wi-Fi wireless cameras linked to your smartphone will provide real-time alerts to your mobile phone so you can see and talk to visitors.
- Position cameras at a height of approximately 1.8 metres beside doors where they can record good quality facial images as the person approaches.
- Signage, warning that CCTV is in use, can be a deterrent.

Lighting

- Outdoor lighting helps reduce hiding spots and should be installed to cover key access points such as your front and rear door.
- Instead of keeping outdoor lights on, consider using motion sensor lights that turn on when movement is detected, welcoming you but deterring offenders.

- A floodlight camera combines a bright, movement activated light with CCTV and is designed to both startle and record.
- Plug-in timer switches enable you to set an interior light or lamp to turn on and off at set times which helps make it look like someone's home.
- Energy saving LED bulbs are a good choice as they use less electricity, last longer and generate less heat than conventional bulbs, reducing fire risk.

Alarm systems

- Consider if you require your alarm to be monitored.
- Monitored – the alarm system's status is continually monitored by a monitoring company and an activation results in civilian security personnel attending to check the premises.
- Unmonitored – once activated, the system will sound a loud alarm within the house which is designed to scare off an intruder and alert neighbours.
- Signage, warning that an alarm system in use, can be a deterrent.

Valuables

- Marking valuables helps police identify the rightful owner and makes it harder for offenders to sell or dispose of your property.
- Engraving is suitable for items like power tools, electrical items and bikes.
- UV pens are more suitable for antiques, cameras, laptops and breakables like ceramics and glassware.
- Mark valuables with your driver's licence number, starting with the letter 'S' for South Australia, e.g. S123456.
- Make a quick record of valuables with a photo of the item and the serial and model number. Store securely in a separate folder on your phone or backup drive.
- Place a ruler next to jewellery when photographing it to give an indication of size.
- Consider using tracking devices (like air or smart tags/tiles) on expensive items. Make sure you know how to track them.

