

Neighbourhood Watch SA Weekly Bulletin

Bulletin 5

Number Plate Theft

Number plates are frequently stolen from motor vehicles in South Australia.

Stolen number plates are often displayed on other vehicles, which are then used in the commission of other offences, including joyriding, petrol theft, robberies and house break-ins. Offenders use stolen number plates because if a witness notes the vehicle's number plate details, it will only lead the police back to the original victim.

Number plates are readily accessible to offenders because they are affixed to the exterior of your vehicle, and often secured with standard screws which can be easily removed.

As a crime prevention initiative, the RAA, in partnership with Neighbourhood Watch SA and SA Police, offer a free of charge service where vehicle owners can have their number plates re-fitted with tamper-resistant screws.

Tamper-resistant screws have a one-way head allowing them to be tightened up, but preventing (or making it very difficult) for them to be loosened.

To make a booking to have your vehicle's number plates re-fitted with tamper-resistant screws by a participating RAA Approved Repairer, contact:

RAA Technical Advisory Service

Call: 8202 4689

Email: TechAdvisory@raa.com.au

For more information, visit the RAA website at:

www.raa.com.au/motor/safety-and-advice/car-advice

To help prevent number plate theft you should also:

- Secure your vehicle in a locked garage.
- If you cannot garage your vehicle, then try to park in a well-lit area.

Further motor vehicle crime prevention advice is available on the SA Police website at:

www.police.sa.gov.au/your-safety/crime-prevention-and-security

If your number plates are stolen, please report the theft to SA Police immediately by calling the police assistance line on 131 444.

New number plates can be ordered online at www.ecom.transport

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