

## **Defensive Planting**

The ever-increasing popularity and sophistication of gardening has not gone unnoticed by the criminal. Garden crime is a reality. According to police statistics, the most likely items to be stolen are mowers, strimmers, chain saws, hedge trimmers, garden furniture and plants.

Nature herself provides one of the best solutions to many garden crimes. With careful thought and planning you can reduce the risk of becoming a victim of garden crime, whilst at the same time creating an attractive garden. For instance you can create an impenetrable hedge, which looks far more attractive than security fencing but is just as effective.

Planting prickly shrubs around vulnerable windows can also serve as a deterrent to the burglar. By careful planning you can produce a beautiful garden and reduce the risk of being the next victim of garden crime.

Criminals do not like climbing through prickly plants and hedges. They know that a small item of ripped clothing or blood can help the police identify them. For a full list of defensive plants please visit:

<http://www.chiltern.gov.uk/homesecurity>  
<http://www.southbucks.gov.uk/homesecurity>

You can also contact Chiltern District Council and South Bucks District Council's Joint Community Safety team on 01494 586535 and for further crime reduction advice you can visit:

<https://www.thamesvalley.police.uk/advice/> [www.chiltern.gov.uk/crimereduction](http://www.chiltern.gov.uk/crimereduction) or [www.southbucks.gov.uk/crimereduction](http://www.southbucks.gov.uk/crimereduction) or follow us on Twitter [@csafetycdcsbdc](https://twitter.com/csafetycdcsbdc)



**Working together for a safer  
Chiltern and South Bucks**