

## **“TROUBLE IN PARADISE “**



**A burglary in your home can turn your life upside down!**



**Burglars can  
enter a house in  
different ways**



When you come home after a burglary, you will see the damage that has been caused after your house has been turned upside down. It is disturbing to know that your personal possessions have been handled by intruders



### **WHAT WE KNOW ABOUT BURGLARS?**

1. They want to go in quickly and get out with cash or jewels.
2. They hate light because it helps with recognition.
3. They hate sound, like sirens from an alarm system.
4. They hate cameras; a balaclava or hoodie does not always prevent recognition.
5. They don't want to lose time trying to break good security / locks.
6. Burglars are unfortunately specialists in their field

## Options for Protecting your House

There are many options if you decide to improve the security of your home. The most important thing is to have outside lighting, this makes burglars feel exposed. An alarm system can provide movement detectors, cameras inside your house and notification to the Control Centre and Police. In addition you could install outside cameras and enhanced protection for doors and windows.

### 1 Door and window security



simple lock

multi-point lock

burglary prevention strip

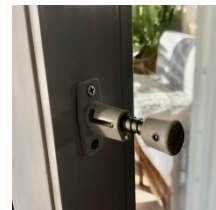
ajar position



Cylinder protection



Window side lock



Sliding door lock

### Anti drilling the lock



### Snap off cartridge locks

If these are hit with a chisel, they will snap off at the part which has been cut leaving the locking mechanism intact. They work for multi-locks systems.

## Rejas



Metal bars or rejas can be fitted on doors and windows. These certainly act as deterrents but care must be taken to have keys handy for exit in case of fire. If a window with a fixed reja fitted is the only exit from a room, then this should be considered in case of fire.

## Lighting

### External



These can be solar powered or cabled. The solar lights are cheaper to run and do not require the expense of cabling. Prior to detecting movement, they can be off or on half power. Once movement is detected, they are switched to full power automatically.

It is good to position them behind any cameras that are installed to ensure good image capture

### Internal

### House Lighting

This can be normal house lighting but can be connected to timers which can be configured to switch on/off regularly or to switch on/off randomly. This will give the impression that someone is in when the occupants are away.

## Cameras



### **The images from cameras can be of great importance to the police**

All cameras require the subject to be well lit using infra-red or flood light. The distance covered by the infra-red needs to be checked before buying. All cameras need good lighting as mentioned in the lighting section. External and internal cameras are the same except external are weather proof



Both images use infra-red

### Wi-Fi cameras

These can be bought separately in DIY stores for internal and external use and require power and a good Wi-Fi signal. The Wi-Fi signal can be enhanced by using Wi-Fi extenders.

They sometimes use a micro SD card to store the video following movement detection. They can also store the images on the cloud (internet). This is an advantage if the camera and SD card are stolen. The internet traffic is low for image storage and retrieval because only the video following detection is stored. The images are usually 1080 resolution, which is high.

Internal cameras can be used to trigger an alert to the users' mobile phone if an intruder is detected. External cameras cannot be used to trigger alerts unless they can be adjusted to only alert if a human form is detected. Otherwise spiders and rain can give false alerts.

### Cabled cameras.

These are usually bought as a package along with a recorder. The cable carries the power and the image signal. The image is recorded in the house on the recorder which can then be accessed remotely to view. The images are good quality because they do not rely on Wi-Fi. A recorder with 4 cameras (minimum needed) can cost around 2000 euros against 50 euros each for a Wi-Fi camera

### Doorbell Cameras e.g. Ring



These cameras alert when the doorbell rings and allows you to speak with the person at the door even if you are away from home. Some use an SD card but Ring now store the images directly on the cloud where they can be accessed. This is especially useful if the doorbell is taken. They can be configured to alert only if a human form is detected even if they do not ring the bell.

## Alarm Systems

Bought and installed by the Home-owner

The content of the pack needs to be checked. It may be that you need to buy more detectors, cameras etc. to complete the installation. You also need to check the features that are available such as notification of alarm to the homeowner or Police.

### Professional Alarm

This is supplied, maintained and installed by an alarm company. The homeowner pays a monthly rental depending upon the components fitted. There should be no installation charge. Each item included should be questioned and explained to ensure that the system is not over configured.

### Features of Alarm

#### Alert System

The system needs to be able to use the internet and mobile phone data to notify of alert. Once the Alarm Control Centre is alerted, then internal cameras will be used to check for an intruder. **This cannot be done unless the alarm is set.** If this is verified, then the Police and Homeowner will be notified by the Control Centre.

#### Power

The alarm system and router need to be on a UPS (uninterrupted power supply) which will continue to supply power even if the power to the house is cut.

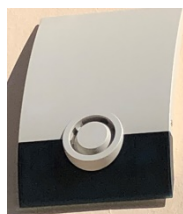
### Components of an Alarm System



Alarm Control Pan



Outdoor motion detectors (4) with or without camera



Outside Siren / Alarm light

An outdoor siren with flash is important, burglars hate sound and light and the neighbours also hear your alarm go off .



#### Indoor motion detectors with camera

This is a motion detector with a camera that is activated when movement is detected and the alarm goes off.

The alarm immediately sends a small piece of video of a few seconds to the alarm central, which immediately detects whether it is a burglary and then calls the police.



#### Smoke detector

A smoke detector is a standard part of the equipment of an alarm system. It is connected to the alarm system and even if your system is turned off and smoke is detected, the alarm goes to the Alarm Center and they warn the fire brigade

### Warning signs might have a preventive effect



#### Advice on Alarm Systems

The installer should advise the best locations for all of the equipment. He/she will be aware of the need for zones, such as the bedroom for night settings and the presence of pets.

If you go out, then lock your pets in a room so that they will not be harmed.

It may be an advantage to have a lock on your bedroom door.

Some systems allow you to enter a reversed pin, 4321 instead of 1234 and this will alert the police immediately.

## **Recommendations for staying secure**

Use Alertcops (see notes attached – Cynthia)

Challenge strangers if safe to do.

Watch for abnormal activity in your neighbourhood

Be careful which workmen you use in your house. It is better to have recommendations.

Never let anybody in who arrives at your door unless you know them.

Do not answer questions about the level of security that you have.

Make sure that any burglar can see any deterrents that you have such as cameras, good locks and lighting.

Keep doors locked if you are out or even on the other side of the house.

It's an idea to leave your television on in the evening if you are out. The colours and moving images of a television give the impression that people are home.

If you have an alarm system, turn it on even if you go out locally

Never confront a burglar, notify the police and stay secure. The burglar may be armed. Make a lot of noise and do not show yourself at the window.