

PROTECTING RETAIL PREMISES

1 Secure perimeter & grounds

(First line of defence against the burglar.) Ensure that fences, walls and gates are well maintained and secure. Gates, outbuildings, etc. can be secured with insurance approved padlocks and chains. Do not store materials close to the perimeter which could be used to assist entry or exit from your property. Externally stored or parked items such as motor cycles or ride on mowers, could be secured to a ground anchor with a heavy duty padlock and chain, whilst other vehicles could be protected against removal with wheel clamps or collapsible parking posts.

2 Building shell

The walls of a building are generally strongly constructed, but to prevent against sustained or vehicular attack, the provision of strategically placed street furniture as a barrier may assist (e.g. kerbs, ditches, planters or metal posts, please contact your local authority re planning consent).

3 Wall apertures

Grilles, Air ventilation systems and in older properties cellar flaps and gratings should be securely fixed to prevent easy access to premises.

4 Roofs

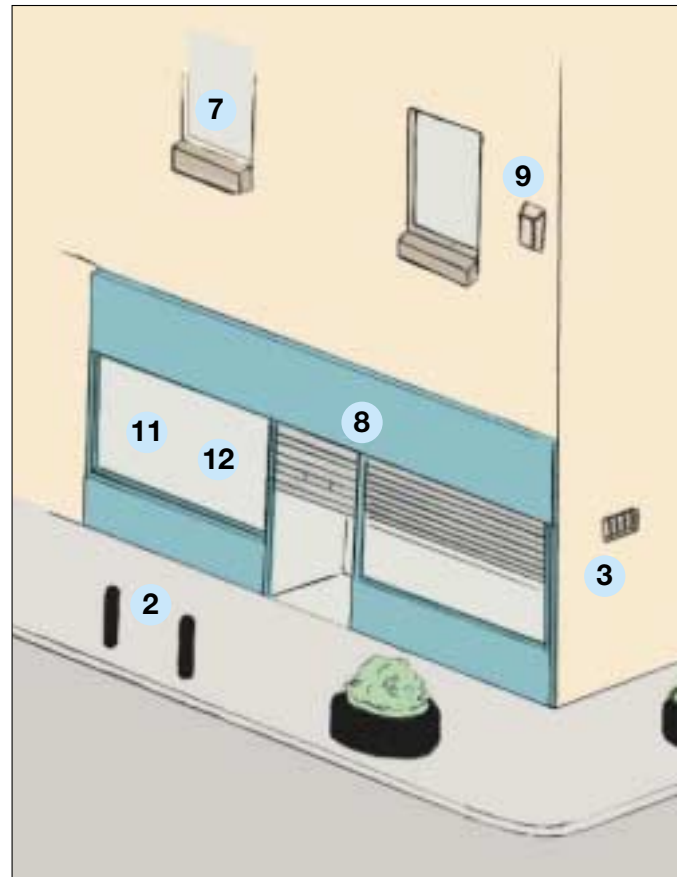
Ensure access to the roof of the premises is restricted by strategically placed anti climb paints or other suitable anti scale barriers. Roof apertures such as skylights should be secured and additional protection in the form of internally fitted bars or grilles should be considered.

5 Doors

Rear doors should be of solid core construction and no less than 44mm thick (if wood) and fitted with good quality locks. Front doors should also be of substantial construction with locks to at least BS 3621 standard. Hinge bolts, anti jemmy strips, etc. will add to the overall security.

6 Letter boxes

Siting should be considered carefully owing to the risk of arson and access to internal door locks. (Anti arson mail boxes designed to extinguish fires starting within the box itself are available. These may be fitted to the inside of the door, or if more appropriate can be installed as a self contained unit with a purpose built through the wall mail slot).



7 Windows

Rear windows should be avoided wherever possible, if required however the fitting of laminated glass is essential. Any opening window should be limited to a 50mm maximum aperture, although existing windows can be secured by means of fitting laminated glass and/or internal window bars or grilles.

8 Security grilles / display window security

The fitting of security grilles on display windows can be considered (although the advice of your Local Authority should



be sought). Alternatively or additionally a smoke generating system could be installed internally which would flood the window area with dense smoke in the event of the window being breached.

9 Alarm systems

Together with the other measures a good quality and professionally installed alarm system, will be of help. Most insurers and police authorities however now insist on the installation of monitored alarms with alarm verification facilities. Mobile sensor posts/central monitoring systems offer

excellent temporary security for perimeter or empty property applications.

10 Security lighting

Lighting linked with other measures is a deterrent against crime and should be seriously considered for the rear aspect of shop premises where most attacks take place, similarly the display area can be lit at night to afford good surveillance (and marketing opportunities).

11 Internal security

Consider store design to ensure adequate surveillance of stock, paying particular attention to valuable items on display. Loop alarm systems enable goods on display to be alarmed individually, whilst physically restraining items against removal may offer alternative protection where appropriate. Strategically positioned security mirrors will help staff to watch displays out of direct line of sight whilst use of CCTV systems allows local or remote monitoring and/or recording of events. Where a CCTV system is used to record events that may subsequently be used to help in securing a conviction for theft, it is important to ensure that the system incorporates a date and time stamp facility and that a proper recording media / tape management system is in

place. Equipment used to run the business such as PCs and fax machines can be protected in many ways (see protecting the office).

12 Company policies

Customers and staff alike should be clear that any dishonest appropriation of property belonging to the company will result in prosecution, dismissal or both.

Remember

Before implementing any security measure it is preferable to carry out a risk survey. The available security options may then be evaluated against the perceived risk and the most appropriate product or solution identified.