

# Vehicle Security



FIRST PRINCIPLE

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## Top Tips

- Most thefts from cars are opportunist
- Don't leave valuables on display
- Park in well-lit places
- Lock all doors when the vehicle is unattended

## For Keyless vehicles

- Always keep entry fobs in a Faraday pouch
- If you can, turn off the key
- Use a Steering wheel lock

PREVENT CRIME

PROTECT COMMUNITIES



**NORFOLK**  
CONSTABULARY  
*Our Priority is You*



**SUFFOLK**  
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**Whether your car or van is old or new, it still has value to a thief. Either the contents or the vehicle can be the target so it is important that you take steps to secure the vehicle and remove valuable contents.**

## Remove Valuables and Contents

Don't leave *anything* on display in your car. Thieves can sometimes mistake them for valuables and the damage they can do to the car to gain entry can be costly.

Take all your belongings with you when you leave the car. If you can't, then lock them in the boot out of sight.

CD players, dash cams and stereos – remove them if you can, get them security marked and keep a note of serial numbers.

Sat Navs – remove unit and holder from windscreen, wipe the residue circle from the screen (this could indicate to a thief you have hidden the unit in the car).

## Security Devices

Fit security devices – i.e. Steering wheel lock, electronic immobiliser, locking wheel nuts, vehicle alarm.



## Security Marking

Etching - have your vehicles registration number etched onto all glass surfaces on the vehicle.

Security marking - consider marking all your valuables, especially those that you frequently take in your car.

Mark them with your postcode or other unique identification (SmartWater or Selecta DNA are both suitable and accredited products).

## Secure Windows and Doors

Lock all doors, close all windows and the sunroof every time you leave your car, even if it is just for a few minutes, such as when you're at a petrol station.

## Park Securely

Use your garage and always lock it as well as your car. If you don't have a garage, try to park in a well-lit place or somewhere that is overlooked.

When you park your car away from home, try to avoid places that are unattended, have easy access and are concealed from public view.

## Keep your keys safe

Always take care to keep your keys in a safe place. When you're at home, keep them in a safe place away from windows or doors.

If you're out and about don't leave your key's on display and make sure you have them close to you at all times.

If you have a keyless entry system see our separate document on keyless entry theft.

## Tracking devices

It's possible to subscribe to a security company called Tracker who can fit a tracking device to your vehicle and use it to trace its location if it's stolen.

<https://www.tracker.co.uk/>

More details can be found on the Secured by design website

<https://www.securedbydesign.com/>

## Keyless Vehicle Security

**This section is specific to those vehicles that are locked and unlocked using a keyless fob.**

**Keyless entry car fobs or cards work by emitting a signal that the vehicle detects when it's a few feet away, allowing you to unlock the doors and start the engine. Thieves can exploit this wireless technology by getting hold of a relay amplifier and transmitter on the black market, then finding a vehicle parked close enough to its owner's house (where the key is).**

### How Does It Work?

The poster at the end of this document gives a clear description of how this type of theft is carried out



## What additional security precautions can I take with a keyless vehicle

### Signal-blocking pouches

Don't assume that wrapping your key in foil will do a good enough job. It isn't designed for this purpose. As keyless crime has spiked, several anti-theft pouches have hit the market that are designed to block signals emitted by the key. The idea is simple - keep your key inside the *Faraday* pouch when not in use, and special material will prevent a relay amplifier from picking up its unique signal and transmitting it. We'd recommend only buying these from a reputable outlet and looking for reviews and accreditation to ensure it will work.



### Switch off the key

The wireless signal from some keyless fobs can be turned off, although the feature isn't always obvious and can require a combination of button presses. Consult the manual or contact the manufacturer to find out if this is possible for the keys to your car.

# SECURITY TIPS FOR DRIVERS WITH KEYLESS ENTRY VEHICLES

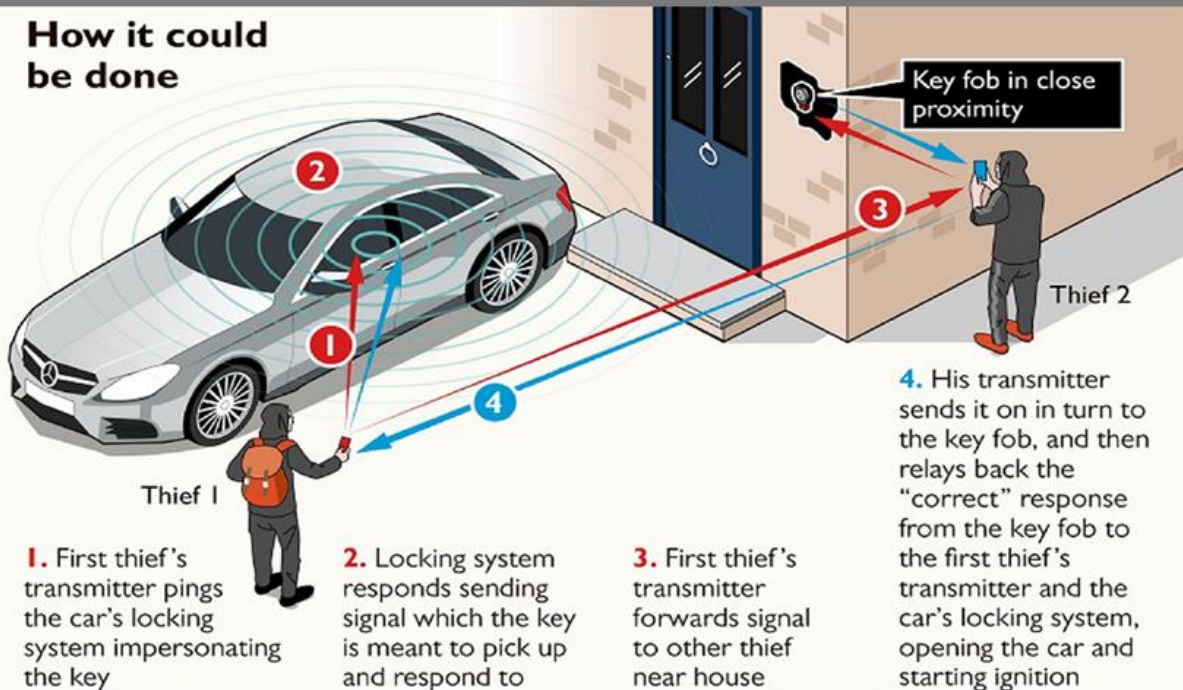


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## What are Relay Attacks?

How it could be done



### GOT A MODERN KEYLESS VEHICLE ? HERE ARE SOME TIPS TO KEEP IT SAFE AND SECURE

- Talk to your dealer about the digital features of your car. Have there been any software updates you can take advantage of?
- Can your keyless entry fob can be turned off? Check with your dealer to confirm that you can turn it off overnight or when the vehicle is not in use.
- Store your car entry fob away from household entry points such as your front and back doors or windows.
- Invest in a signal blocking pouch, often called a "faraday pouch" Look for the *Sold Secure* or *Secured by Design* logo. These products are tested. Keeping the keyless entry fob out of sight is not enough– thieves only need to get near to the key to amplify the signal.
- Be vigilant. Keep an eye out for suspicious activity in your neighbourhood and report anything unusual to the police on 101 (or 999 in an emergency).
- Review your car security. Check for aftermarket security devices such as mechanical locks and trackers which are proven to deter thieves.
- For more information about keyless vehicle theft look on our A-Z of Crime Prevention on our website.

## First Principle: Related links

Check out all of our Crime Prevention information using the following links or by using the QR code to take you to the First Principle Pages

[Anti-Social Behaviour](#)

[ATM Security](#)

[Beach Hut Security](#)

[Boat Security](#)

[Building Site Security](#)

[Business Security](#)

[Caravan Security](#)

[Card Security](#)

[Catalytic Converters](#)

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[Cold Callers](#)

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[County Lines Advice](#)

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[Farm Security](#)

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[Home Improvements](#)

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[Keyless Vehicles](#)

[Key Safe Security](#)

[Lock Snapping](#)

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[Occupiers Liability](#)

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[Power Tool Security](#)

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[Other Links you might find helpful](#)

[Ask The Police](#)

[Secured by Design](#)

[Sold Secure](#)

[Crimestoppers](#)

[Victim Care](#)

[Residential Design Guide](#)

