



Home security walk-round

Walk round your home in daylight with this sheet and a pen. Tick what is fine, and write down anything that needs fixing.

Walked round on _____ date _____

By _____



Doors and keys

☐

Every outside door shuts and locks properly: front, back and side.

☐

Locked every time, even when you are at home.

☐

Keys out of the locks, and away from windows and the letterbox.

☐

Everyone in the house knows where the keys are.

So they can get out quickly in a fire.

☐

No spare key hidden outside: not under the mat, not on a string.

☐

A letter tray or restrictor behind the letterbox, so keys can't be "fished" out.

☐

Replacing a door? Ask for one tested to PAS 24:2016 or I.S. EN 1627:2011.



Valuables

☐

No large amounts of cash or jewellery kept in the house.

Jewellery is what burglars take most.

☐

Valuables photographed and property-marked.



Windows

☐

Every window shuts and locks properly, even a small one.

Burglars will use the smallest opening.

☐

Shut and locked, whether you are at home or going out.

☐

Replacing windows? Ask for I.S. EN 1627:2011 or PAS 24:2016.



Lights

☐

A porch light on a dusk-to-dawn sensor or a timer.

☐

Any floodlight high on the wall, out of easy reach, and aimed at your own ground.

☐

No dark corners or shadows outside.

☐

A lamp inside on a plug-in timer, set to come on before dark.



Shed, garage and garden

- ☐ Shed and garage locked, with good-quality locks.
- ☐ Tools, bikes and other valuables in the shed chained up.
- ☐ Ladders and tools put away, not left out in the garden.
- ☐ Side gate locked.
- ☐ Front hedges and shrubs no higher than 3 feet (about 90 cm), so nobody can hide behind them.
- ☐ Garden tidy and grass cut, so the house looks lived in.
- ☐ Thorny plants along the boundary, for extra security.



The alarm, if you have one

- ☐ Set every time you go out.
- ☐ The code is not written on the manual, or anywhere near the keypad.
- ☐ The manual is kept where you can find it.
- ☐ Everyone with a key knows how to set it and turn it off.
- ☐ Serviced, and any fault fixed.
- ☐ The company that fitted or services it is on the PSA register.
And the monitoring company too, if it is monitored.
- ☐ Monitored? Changed broadband or home phone provider? Tell the monitoring centre.



Things to fix

What needs doing	Where	By when	Done
			☐
			☐
			☐
			☐
			☐
			☐
			☐
			☐



Free advice

Your local Garda Crime Prevention Officer can advise on any crime prevention question. Ring or call into your local Garda station and ask for them.

- **No alarm yet?** Use our sheet “House alarm: questions for the installer”.
- **Going away?** Use the “Lock up, light up” checklist too.