safeandsecure.ie

KEEP IT by the door you use most

Lock up, light up

Every evening, and before you go away

The Gardaí's own advice. Tick each line as you lock up.



Every evening

- [ ] Every door locked (front, back and side), even when you are at home
- [ ] Every window shut and locked, even a small one left open for air
- [ ] Keys out of the locks, away from windows and the letterbox
  Somewhere everyone in the house can find them quickly in a fire.
- [ ] Some lights on, or on timers
  Not just the porch or hall light.
- [ ] Shed, garage and side gate locked; ladders and tools put away
- [ ] Alarm set when you go out, if you have one

23.9% of burglaries of homes over the last three winters were through an unsecured door.
An Garda Síochána, 1 October 2026

Before you go away

- [ ] Lamps on timers in different rooms, and a radio on a timer
- [ ] Outside lights on a sensor or a timer
- [ ] A trusted neighbour will check the house and take in the post
  And open and close the curtains. Or use An Post's MailMinder (for a fee).
- [ ] Milk, papers and other deliveries stopped
- [ ] Grass cut and hedges trimmed
- [ ] Local Garda station told the house will be empty
- [ ] Nothing about the trip on social media until you are home
- [ ] No large amounts of cash or jewellery left in the house
- [ ] Every door and window locked, and the alarm set

Useful numbers

Neighbour _____

Garda station _____

Emergency **999 or 112**

One thing to do this week

Put a lamp in a front room on a plug-in timer, set to come on before dark, so the house looks lived in.

- Free advice: ask your local Garda station for the **Crime Prevention Officer**.

This sheet: safeandsecure.ie/resources/printables/lock-up-light-up Last checked 6 October 2026
Sources: An Garda Síochána: Operation Thor (1 October 2026), Lock Up Light Up, Securing your home, home security sheets HS2 and HS5 (garda.ie); An Post (anpost.com).

Free to print and share. Not for sale.