

Distraction Burglary Crime Prevention Advice

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Distraction Burglary - Crime Reduction Advice

A distraction burglary is when someone turns up unannounced with the intention of tricking their way into your home. They may pose as officials or ask your help with something.

Some work alone, but they often work in groups of two or more, usually with one person knocking at your door with a convincing excuse. They keep you occupied whilst often sneak in and search your house to steal cash and valuables.

There are some steps you can take to keep yourself safe:

- If you are not sure who is at your door – do not open it.
- Check the ID of the caller by calling the company they say they work for i.e. gas electricity water or police.
- Use telephone numbers listed in the directory NOT numbers provided by the caller.
- Don't keep large quantities of cash at home. Reputable companies will not insist to be paid in cash.
- Keep windows and doors secure at all times.
- Use a door chain.
- If you suspect a bogus caller has visited you call the police on 101.
- Please look after and advise elderly family members and neighbours.

A genuine caller will happily wait outside while you check on them by calling their organisation and/or calling a family member or neighbour.

Finally please remember this type of crime is not common but we must all remain vigilant!