



## Theft of BMW Steering Wheels

**Milton Keynes has seen a recent spate of theft of steering wheels from BMW motor cars.**

Eight cars have so far been targeted and in the majority of cases a side window has been smashed to gain entry to the car. The steering wheel has then been taken and in some cases part of the dashboard and center console have also been removed.

**It is important that owners take steps to safeguard their cars**

- If you have the opportunity to park your car in a garage it is sensible to do so.
- Park on your drive, if you have one, close to the house.
- Try to park in an area that is well lit and overlooked by houses.
- Ensure that the car is locked and the alarm set.

**Install visible and physical barriers to deter criminals**

- Many criminals will consider bypassing vehicles with additional security as they are too much hassle.

**Steering wheel disk locks**

- Consider purchasing a steering wheel disk lock which covers the entire steering wheel. It is recommended that a lock which has been attack tested and approved is considered. Look for products which are approved by Secured by Design, Sold Secure or Thatcham.

**Automotive window security film**

- Window security film is bonded to the inside of the vehicles windows and holds the glass in place should the window be broken, making it more difficult and time consuming for a criminal to gain entry. Window film should be professionally installed by a reputable company. Look for film which has been Thatcham tested and approved or is British/European Standard.

**Security mark the steering wheel**

- Consider security marking the steering wheel in an inconspicuous place with your post code and house number or company details. You could simply use an ultraviolet pen or consider a forensic marking kit. Secured by design products are recommended.

**Further information**

<https://www.securedbydesign.com/> Police supported security products

<https://www.thatcham.org/> Certified security products

<https://www.soldsecure.com/> Security products testing standard



Sign up to  
Thames Valley  
**ALERT**

[www.thamesvalleyalert.co.uk](http://www.thamesvalleyalert.co.uk)

