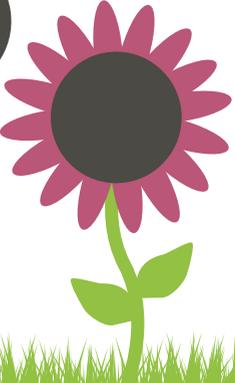
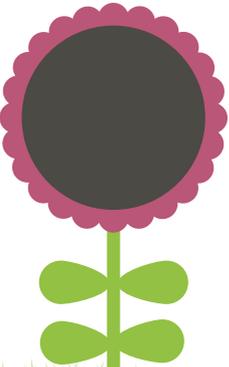
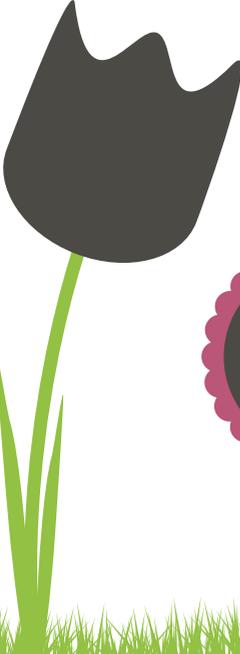




**Tips *to* nip
garden crime
in the bud**



Warwickshire
POLICE



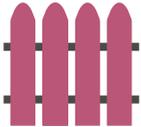
West Mercia
POLICE

www.warwickshire.police.uk
www.westmercia.police.uk

Top tips for a safer garden...

1

Gates, fences and walls should be kept in good repair to stop intruders getting in. Keep gates locked at all times.



2

If you have nowhere else to store valuable equipment, take measures to secure your shed.



3

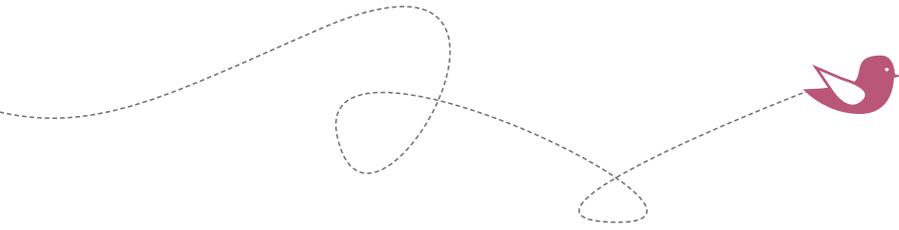
Don't leave expensive equipment like garden tools, mowers, mountain bikes and power tools in the shed.



4

Don't leave ladders and tools lying around in your garden - these could be used to break into your home.





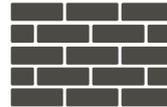
5

Mark your garden tools, equipment and mountain bike with your postcode.



6

Strong gates, fences and walls which are kept in good repair can deter intruders from getting to the back and sides of your property.



7

Well positioned external lighting is a great way of keeping intruders at bay and can be bought from most DIY stores.



8

Make sure garden fences are high enough to make climbing them difficult. A trellis can be used to add additional height



Defensive planting...

nature's way of beating the burglar

'Defensive planting' is the term used to describe the way you can use certain prickly plants, bushes and shrubs to deter burglars.

Think about using defensive planting around vulnerable areas such as windows, fences, boundary walls and drainpipes. Everyone enjoys having a well kept, attractive garden and there's no reason why upping the security in your garden should mean otherwise.

Here are a few examples...

Berberis - a vibrant shrub with vivid red leaves, has sharp spine-like prickles, reaches 6ft, good for hedging and growing by walls.

Rosa Rugosa 'Rubra' - a flowering shrub with densely prickled stems, can reach 6ft, excellent as an impenetrable hedge.

Pyracantha - a vigorous evergreen shrub with white flowers in May, followed by orange or red berries, great for hedging, growing under windows or around doorways.

Holly - usually grown as a small tree or large bush, can reach up to 50ft, spiny, glossy dark green leaves all year round, excellent hedging plant.

Hawthorn, Japonica and **Acanthus** are just a few other examples. Ask for advice at your local garden centre.



Visit www.warwickshire.police.uk or www.westmercia.police.uk or speak to your local **Crime Prevention Design Advisor** for more advice.