

High Value Gold Burglary



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Over the last few years we have seen an increase in gold thefts. The gold that is being targeted would appear to be 22ct and is often referred to as “Asian Gold”

As 24ct is “pure gold” 22ct is very appealing to thieves.

The below chart demonstrates this:



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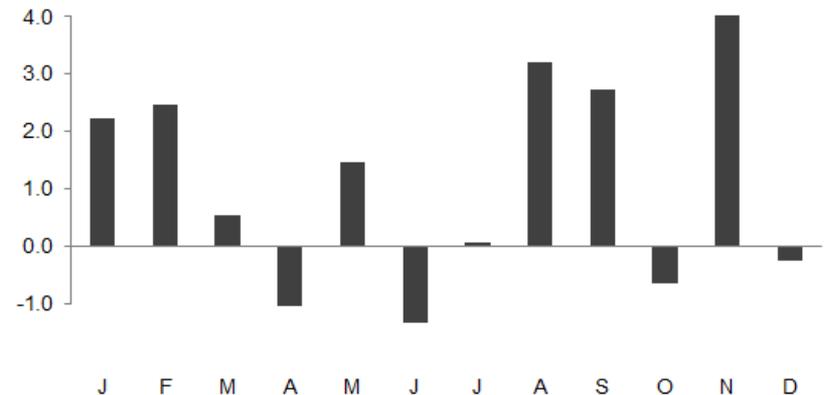


This chart represents 12 years worth of statistics into how gold prices fluctuate.

As you can see the average prices appears to have a sharp spike over what is the wedding season and other religious events such as Diwali.

This may be contributing factor in the increase of burglaries.

Monthly percentage change in gold price in GBP



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What makes my property more desirable to criminals?

Religious ornaments/symbols on display



Children's toys left on display outside your property – what games consoles or other expensive toys are inside the house?



Tidy garden – a well kept house would indicate someone who takes pride in their property and is likely to have attractive possessions so security is even more important



Festival decorations on display



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What are the most common times and entry points?

In Bristol and the surrounding area of South Gloucestershire we have had a total of 45 high value gold burglaries to date this year.



63% of the above burglaries have been between the hours of 7am and 5pm

69% of these were committed by forcing entry via the rear of the house, either by smashing the patio window or using an implement to force it open



75% of these incidents, were on properties with easy access to the rear/side of the property.
Detached/semi detached or end of terrace



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What can I do to avoid being a victim?

Be aware of door to door sales or anyone not known hanging around the area.

Some recent methods that criminals have used before carrying out a burglary are door to door sales – offering gardening/building services, or using a disguise such as delivery driver who has “the wrong address”

- Should this happen please **do not** take them up on any work offers, try and obtain details of who they are and any vehicles that they are linked to and report immediately to the police.
- Some may also use leaflet dropping as a way to assess a house, ensure that you don't have anything valuable on show or anything to indicate that you may have valuables inside.

**TO PROTECT IT
REGISTER IT**



Record your items – description , photographs, value and keep any receipts.

Make sure that you email yourself a copy or store somewhere safe away from the property in the event your computer is stolen you will still be able to access the details.

<http://www.immobilise.com/>

When going out try not to show off any valuables, cover jewellery as much as possible

If using a taxi, don't have it collect you from your house but nearby and the same when returning home

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Crime prevention ideas for the home

Below are a few ideas of how to make you home more secure and harder to target
Obviously you are not expected to do all but some may be enough of a deterrent

Inside the home

When going out have some of your lights on timers to make it appear someone is home, try to make the times random

Leave a television on or buy a “fake tv light” to appear as if someone is home

Install a locksmith approved safe- this should be attached to a solid and permanent surface such as a wall or floor

Install an alarm system

Burglars tend to avoid looking in children’s rooms, kitchens and under stairs – consider this when storing valuable items – will they look in toy packaging stored under the stairs or in a toy box?

When getting dark, drawer curtains/blinds so that valuables/occupants can not be seen from the street

Outside the home

Keep doors locked, even when home to prevent opportunist thieves entering your home

Keep bushes and hedges trimmed to prevent any hiding areas for offenders

Plant prickly bushes such as roses under windows to make access difficult

Have gravel out the paths as this makes noise and makes it difficult for criminals to be discreet

Install CCTV

Install outside lights

Tidy away toys or garden furniture that could be used to climb on

Store garden tools/ stones/bricks in a garage/shed, to avoid being used as tools to gain entry

Close your garden gate if you have one, it looks less inviting than an open one

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How to contact us

Report non-emergencies on-line at
www.AvonandSomerset.police.uk/

Or call
101

Attend a police station

In an emergency – if a crime is being or is about to be committed - **999**

If you have any information about a crime that is not happening at the time
and wish to remain anonymous



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