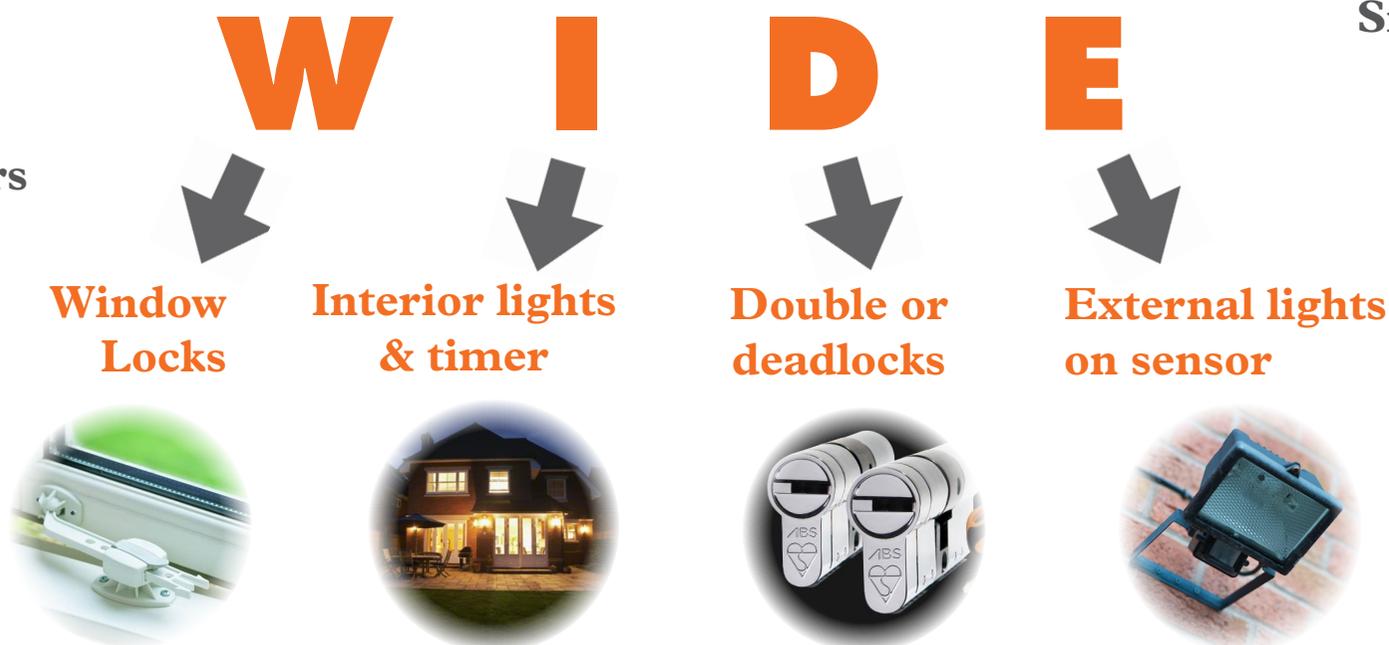


The effectiveness of burglary devices

Social renters
3x more at risk
of being burgled
than homeowners



Since 1993, the
risk of being
burgled has
reduced x3



Offers 49x more protection than no security against getting burgled

The data was taken from the British Crime Survey & The Crime Survey for England & Wales from 1992-2012.

What the research **doesn't** show:

- Further protection does not increase efficiently or consistently with more security products on top of 'WIDE'.
- The research does not reflect the quality of the products or if they were used or intended to be i.e. Alarm activated.

Other factors:

- Double glazing has grown expeditiously in recent years which has helped to decrease burglary.
- 5% of households still have no security.
- Secured by Design has had a positive impact on designing out crime at source.



The effectiveness of burglary security devices

by A. Tseloni, R. Thompson, L.E. Grove, N. Tilley and G. Farrell
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<http://www.palgrave-journals.com/sj/journal/vaop/ncurrent/full/sj201430a.html>

Executive Summary

Background

Domestic Burglary is a high volume crime affecting many households. While it has declined in recent years, it causes substantial financial loss and damage to property as well as high levels of anxiety. Surveys of public priorities about crime put burglary at the top. To date there has been little systematic research into the role of security devices in declining burglary or their relative effectiveness in different contexts. The work is funded by the economic and Social Research Council for 18 months under the Secondary Data Analysis Initiative (ES/K003771/2) using data from the Crime Survey for England and Wales.

Key Findings

Consistent with previous research, security has a major role in determining burglary rates. In particular:

- Combinations of security devices in general afford up to 50 times more protection than no security.
- What was most effective was a combination of four devices: external lights on a sensor; internal lights on a timer; double or deadlocks on doors and window locks.
- Protection conferred against burglary does *not consistently* increase with the number of security devices.
- Individual security devices confer up to three times greater protection than no security, the most effective being external lights with sensors. Counterintuitively, a burglar alarm on its own seems to increase burglary risk.

Conclusion

These findings are consistent with other work by this research team that suggests security played a major role in the long-term decline in burglary. This study strongly recommends that security standards for housing should promote the routine incorporation of good quality security devices.