



Our 20 Favourite Crime Prevention Tips for NEW NEIGHBOURS



1. Identify your 6 immediate neighbours — 2 to your left, 2 to your right, across from and behind you. Try to get to know them and swap contact details.
2. Suggest an arrangement with neighbours for when any of you are on vacation, e.g. for clearing the local newspapers, putting out and retrieving garbage bins, clearing mailboxes, parking in driveways/spaces, etc.
3. Join in with Neighbourhood Watch (NHW). They are your eyes and ears when you aren't at home. Contact your crime prevention officer to find out about a group in your area. Maybe set up an 'eWatch' for your street or building?
4. Introduce yourself to your local police station. Where should you park? What information is available there? When is it manned?
5. Look for your local police on Facebook for up-to-date warnings and information: facebook.com/kuringgaipac. Consider joining local social groups to meet new people, e.g. facebook.com/northshoremumsgroup or [neighbourhood watch: facebook.com/nhwkuringgaihornsby](https://facebook.com/neighbourhoodwatch).
6. Store your new emergency phone numbers in landline and mobile phones. Include Hornsby police station: 9476 9799, Gordon police station: 9418 5399 and those overleaf at the bottom.
7. Look at your home, garden, shed, and immediate neighbourhood as if you were a burglar. What gives you cover from being seen? Where is the quick get-away? Do you have sensor lighting? Are your windows and doors secure? Invite a teenage relative to try and get into your home. Can they climb up to balconies? Fit through gaps? Request a free security audit from the CPO. (Crime Prevention Officer).
8. Beware door-to-door offers of work from rogue tradesmen. Only use tradies recommended to you, or that you have researched. Register for your free welcome basket to see local businesses and services: www.welcomebasket.com.au.
9. Consider having the locks changed/updated/re-keyed. Re-programme new alarm codes for the burglar alarm.

FOR EMERGENCIES (Including anyone on your property)	000
TO REPORT ANYTHING SUSPICIOUS (Crime Stoppers)	1800 333 000
TO REPORT NON-EMERGENCY/POLICE TO ATTEND NON-URGENTLY (Police Assistance Line)	131 444
POLICE COMMUNITY PORTAL (Online reporting of minor crime/lost property)	portal.police.nsw.gov.au
IF YOU'RE NOT SURE (Hornsby Police Station)	9476 9799
TTY—To ask for Police, type PPP	106
SPEAK AND LISTEN	1 800 555 727

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10. Have the burglar alarm system checked. Clean the sensors. Check batteries. Consider new attachments—there are some amazing new technologies available! e.g. balcony sensors, broken window sensors. Spray insect products around sensors to prevent spider webs.
11. Have you checked your property is safe for visitors, children and tradesmen? Is your public liability insurance adequate and up to date?
12. Is any swimming pool and/or spa registered and secure? Are all laws complied with? E.g. resuscitation chart on display? Gate in working order? No shrubs have grown too close to the pool fence?
13. Consider registering your pool as a static water supply (SWS) for use in a fire emergency. Contact your local fire station — Gordon fire station: 02 9449 9834; Hornsby fire station: 02 9476 4318.
14. Update your house insurance. Walk round the house with a video camera, recording objects and contents in each room, opening all drawers and cupboards. Include the shed, garage, garden ornaments, roof space, cellar, etc. Store this video safely off-site (e.g. at work or with a trusted relative).
15. List room-by-room your valuables with models and serial numbers etc. Photograph all jewellery items with a ruler adjacent for scale. Keep the list and photos safely off-site.
16. Engrave your licence number on valuable property. Sensitive articles (e.g. screens, laptops) can be marked with an ultra-violet pen. Ask NHW Ku-ring-gai & Hornsby for the loan of an engraver and/or UV pen from their BORROW webpage.
17. Note where your electricity mains switch is and the water and gas supply shut-offs for your property. Consider an ETSA padlock on the meter cupboard (a special lock available from locksmiths).
18. Formulate your bushfire survival plan and meeting points. Check all windows can be opened. Get extra window lock keys cut and place them nearby to the windows, but not on view!
19. Vary your day-to-day routines so as not to be predictable to a burglar.
20. Remove valuables from view in your car, especially when parked in the driveway or on the street. This includes any garage remote control, as these can be used to get into your home later.

This information was compiled by volunteers with Neighbourhood Watch Ku-ring-gai and Hornsby. Please contact your Crime Prevention Officer (CPO) at Hornsby Police Station for more information. Phone: 9476 9799.

Tips and other resources are available to download free from the Neighbourhood Watch in Ku-ring-gai & Hornsby website: au-NHWKuringgaiHornsby.org/Tips/.

See also the community's one-stop-shop of crime prevention information: watchout.org.au.

Follow us on [Facebook](#), [X](#) (formerly Twitter) or at our [website](#). Contact us at: NHWKuringgaiHornsby@gmail.com.