



NSW Police Force
www.police.nsw.gov.au

COPPER THEFT:

What you can do!

All around the country, the incidents of copper theft is growing. The high global demand for metals has increased copper prices and with this, increased the crime of copper theft. Locations being targeted include substation and field service centre infrastructures as well as building sites, both commercial and residential. The following information aims to assist builders/owners on how to reduce the incidence of copper theft, promote building safety and reduce the associated costs of theft to the industry and public.



Fences and gates

- The boundary of the property should be clearly defined by a fence, preferably an open-style construction. This allows greater visibility to and from the street, restricts unauthorised access, and clearly defines your territorial space.
- Gates should be secured with quality hardened or alloy chains and padlocks.
- All gates should be kept shut and locked when not in use.
- Warning signs should be strategically placed around the perimeter of the property, particularly near entry/exit points to warn intruders of security measures.

Access Control

- Limit the number of entry/exit points to restrict unauthorised access.
- Landscaping should be maintained regularly with trees and shrubs trimmed away from doors and windows.
- Remove obstacles and rubbish from property boundaries, footpaths, driveways, car parks and buildings to restrict concealment and prevent offenders scaling your building.
- Install security lighting in and around your building, particularly over entry/exit points to create an even distribution of light with no glare, e.g. sensor lighting, flood lighting.
- Bollards or barriers can be installed to reduce the opportunity for ram-raid attacks by vehicles.



Crime Prevention is **FREE** advice - www.police.nsw.gov.au

Police, Fire, Ambulance

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In an emergency

Crime Stoppers

1800 333 000

Report crime anonymously

Police Assistance Line

131 444

For non emergencies



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Security Alarm Systems



- To enhance the security of your business, you can install a monitored security alarm system.
- The alarm system should be monitored and installed by a reputable security company licensed under the NSW Security Industry Act.
- Thieves have been known to cut telephone lines to prevent alarms being reported to the security monitoring company. We suggest you consider a supplementary system such as Global Satellite Mobile (GSM) or Radio Frequency (RF) systems to transmit an alarm signal.
- Alarm system controls should be concealed to restrict tampering.

Closed Circuit Television (CCTV)



- CCTV can enhance the physical security of your building and assist in the identification of people involved in anti-social or criminal behaviour.
- Digital technology should be used to record images from the cameras.
- TV monitors should enable staff to monitor activities on the camera.
- Recording equipment should be installed away from the counter area to avoid tampering.
- Any surveillance system should be manufactured and installed by a qualified and reputable company and regularly function tested.
- Ensure that the requirements of the Surveillance and Privacy Act are adhered to.

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