



**OPERATION
BUMBLEBEE**
TARGETING BURGLARY

ADVICE FOR VICTIMS OF BURGLARY

DMC1095



**METROPOLITAN
POLICE**

TOTAL POLICING



WHAT SUPPORT IS AVAILABLE FOLLOWING A BURGLARY?

A burglary can be a very upsetting experience, one that can often leave the victim feeling anxious about security and confused about what will happen next. In addition to the support you will receive from the Metropolitan Police, the national charity, Victim Support provides free and confidential support to victims and witnesses of crime and their families.

Find out more at:

www.victimsupport.org.uk

or contact the victim support line on:
08 08 16 89 111

All volunteers are fully trained counsellors; many have been victims of crime themselves. The organisation has helped more than 1.5 million people over 35 years by providing these services.

Emotional support: helping victims come to terms with the crime.

Practical advice: e.g. helping victims ensure their home is properly secure.

Witness Service: providing support teams in every court in England.

VICTIM SUPPORT - THE FACTS

- It's free to use
 - It's confidential
 - It's not part of the police service
 - You can use Victim Support services, even if you have not, or do not want to contact the police about a crime.
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THE FORENSIC INVESTIGATION

BEFORE FORENSICS ARRIVE

It is very important that you do not touch or move anything in your home before the forensic team arrives as this could contaminate or destroy vital physical evidence.

If you need to secure your home before they arrive, please use gloves, or contact us for advice on how to preserve potential evidence.

WHAT THEY DO

When the forensic team arrive they will probably take photos, dust for fingerprints and collect samples. You may be asked to provide your own fingerprints or DNA. This eliminates you and helps us identify the intruder.

AFTER THEY LEAVE

You are now free to tidy up. Make a note of any items that have been stolen. If you discover additional evidence, please contact us immediately.

WHAT TO DO IF YOU HAVE BEEN BURGLED

1 ASSESS THE SITUATION

If you think your home has been broken into, assess the situation carefully before taking action. If burglars are still there and you interrupt them, you could be at risk.

2 IF IT IS AN EMERGENCY

If you think the burglar is still in the property, or close by, this is an emergency. **Call 999** and wait outside in a safe place for the police.

If you return to your home and discover you have been burgled, it is important that you know what to do next. This will help keep you safe and it will help the police to be as successful as possible in arresting and prosecuting thieves.

3 IF IT IS NOT AN EMERGENCY

If you are sure the burglar has gone, this is not an emergency. Call your local police station, or dial 101.

4 DO NOT TOUCH ANYTHING

Do not touch or move anything, especially where the burglars got in, or out, unless the police tell you to.

WHAT WE DO IF YOU HAVE BEEN BURGLED

5 INITIAL POLICE INVESTIGATION

When we arrive we will interview you and inspect the scene. Neighbours and other witnesses will be interviewed later. You will receive a Crime Reference Number which you need to give to your insurance company.

6 COLLECTING FORENSIC EVIDENCE

A forensic team will visit your home within four hours of you reporting the break-in.

7 DURING THE INVESTIGATION

We will keep you informed about how the investigation is going. If a suspect is charged with your burglary you will be contacted by our Witness Care Unit.

8 CASE CLOSED

The Witness Care Unit will keep you updated about how the case is progressing through the Criminal Justice System until the case is closed. They will also give you information about attending court, should you need to.