

Shopping Smart & Staying Alert



Christmas Shopping

Shield your PIN when paying – thieves often watch closely in busy stores.

Keep bags zipped and close to you: don't leave wallets or phones in back pockets.

Be aware of distraction thieves – one person may distract while another takes your valuables.

Don't overload yourself with parcels – it makes you look like an easy target.

At Home This Christmas



Presents & Packaging

Don't stack wrapped gifts under the tree where they can be seen from windows.

Break down boxes from TVs, consoles, and gadgets – hide packaging inside bins until collection day.

Always close curtains when it's dark, even if you're at home.



Think Before You Post

Avoid sharing your presents on open social media accounts – it's a shopping list for burglars.

Don't advertise when you're away visiting family or on holiday. Share after you're home.

Bonus Tips for a Safer Christmas



Extra Safety Reminders

Keep handbags zipped, carried in front, and never hanging off a chair in cafés or bars.

Secure external gear like roof racks or bike carriers.

Keep car keys away from doors and windows to prevent "relay theft."

Don't leave presents or valuables in plain sight inside your home.

When out walking after dark, stick to well-lit routes and stay alert.



Parking & Parcels

Never leave shopping bags or gifts on show in your car – even for a few minutes.

If you must store them, lock them in the boot before you set off, not in the car park.

Park in well-lit, attended car parks where possible.

Physically check your car is locked – thieves can use "fob jammers" to block signals.

Never leave your car running unattended to de-ice or warm up – thieves watch for this.



Parcel Deliveries

Arrange deliveries for when you're home, or ask for parcels to be left with a neighbour.

Use secure delivery lockers or collection points where available.

Don't leave parcels visible on doorsteps – thieves are quick to spot them.



Simple Security Wins

Use timer switches so your home looks occupied if you're out for parties or holidays.

Outdoor lighting and smart doorbells add an extra deterrent.

Register high-value gifts like phones, tablets, and bikes at immobilise.com.



Look Out for Each Other

Check in on neighbours, especially those who may be alone over Christmas.

Report suspicious behaviour straight away: 101 – or 999 in emergencies.



Neighbourhood Watch

Being part of your local scheme means updates, alerts, and a stronger community against crime.

Find out more at:

derbyshireneighbourhoodwatch.co.uk

Keep Christmas Merry, Keep Christmas Safe.

Enjoy the season without worry – simple steps now protect your celebrations later.

Darker Nights. Safer Streets



Keep Christmas Merry, Keep Christmas Safe.

DerbysHire Neighbourhood Watch are working with Derbyshire Constabulary to help protect your home and community this festive season.

Christmas should be about family, friends, and celebration – not becoming a target for thieves. With a few simple steps, you can make sure the only surprises this year are the ones waiting under the tree.

