



Secure Country Living UK

Practical security and preparedness for rural England

Rural Property Security Routine

Daily, weekly and monthly checks for homes, farms, smallholdings, estates, community buildings and rural businesses.

Property:	_____	Date:	_____
Checked by:	_____	Time:	_____

Use this alongside your site-specific risk assessment. Tick only what applies to your property. If something cannot be secured, record it and deal with it rather than assuming someone else has checked it.

DAILY / END-OF-DAY - ACCESS & BUILDINGS

- ☐ ☐ ☐ Main entrance, driveway and yard gates are closed and secured as intended.
- ☐ ☐ ☐ Unused access points, field gates and vulnerable side/rear approaches are secured where appropriate.
- ☐ ☐ ☐ External doors and accessible windows are closed and locked; sheds, garages, workshops and stores are secured.
- ☐ ☐ ☐ Ladders, tools and other items that could assist forced entry are locked away or secured.
- ☐ ☐ ☐ Intruder alarms, driveway alerts or perimeter detection are armed where fitted.

DAILY / END-OF-DAY - VEHICLES, MACHINERY & VALUABLES

- ☐ ☐ ☐ Vehicle, machinery and plant keys have been removed and stored securely - not left in cabs, ignition switches or obvious locations.
- ☐ ☐ ☐ Quads, ATVs, trailers, sit-on mowers and other high-value mobile equipment are locked, immobilised or secured to a suitable fixed point where appropriate.
- ☐ ☐ ☐ Vehicles and machinery left outside are locked; removable valuables, tools and portable equipment are brought inside where practical.
- ☐ ☐ ☐ Tracking, immobiliser or security devices are active where fitted; any faults or low batteries are noted for action.
- ☐ ☐ ☐ High-value tools, GPS units, batteries and easily carried equipment are out of sight and secured.

DAILY / END-OF-DAY - FUEL, DETECTION & FINAL SWEEP

- ☐ ☐ ☐ Heating oil, diesel or fuel storage is secured; caps, valves, cabinets or tank enclosures show no obvious signs of tampering or leakage.
- ☐ ☐ ☐ CCTV is recording where fitted; key cameras have a clear view and have not obviously been moved, obscured or damaged.
- ☐ ☐ ☐ Security lighting is operating as expected and obvious faults are recorded.
- ☐ ☐ ☐ A final walk-round shows no forced gates, disturbed locks, unfamiliar vehicles, suspicious activity or other unexplained changes.
- ☐ ☐ ☐ Any concern, damage or security failure has been recorded and passed to the responsible person; urgent suspicious activity is reported appropriately.

If a crime is in progress or there is immediate danger, call 999. Use 101 for non-emergency police matters.



Rural Property Security Routine - Periodic Checks

Use the weekly and monthly sections as a short maintenance routine. The aim is to catch deterioration before it becomes a security weakness.

WEEKLY - CHECK THE SECURITY LAYERS

- ☐☐☐ Walk the boundary and access routes. Check gates, hinges, chains, padlocks, fencing, walls and hedges for damage, tampering or new gaps.
- ☐☐☐ Check outbuilding doors, frames, locks, windows and vents. Repair loose fixings, damaged hardware or weak points promptly.
- ☐☐☐ Test alarms, driveway alerts, motion sensors and security lighting as appropriate.
- ☐☐☐ Check CCTV views, date/time, recording status and storage capacity; clean lenses and remove new vegetation or obstructions.
- ☐☐☐ Check fuel tanks and exposed services for tampering, unusual level changes, leaks or damage.
- ☐☐☐ Confirm high-value machinery, tools and portable assets are where expected and security devices remain fitted.
- ☐☐☐ Review unusual visitors, vehicles, attempted access, fly-tipping, poaching/coursing indicators or other suspicious activity noticed during the week.

MONTHLY - VERIFY, MAINTAIN & UPDATE

- ☐☐☐ Physically check a sample of keys, spares and key storage against the Key Management Procedure; investigate missing or unexplained keys.
- ☐☐☐ Review the Rural Asset Register and update new, sold, moved or modified items, serial numbers, photos and security-marking details.
- ☐☐☐ Test trackers, immobilisers, backup batteries and other electronic security devices; replace batteries or arrange repairs where required.
- ☐☐☐ Review exterior lighting coverage and CCTV angles for seasonal vegetation, new buildings, stored materials or changed access patterns.
- ☐☐☐ Check emergency contact information, what3words locations and key local/service numbers are still current.
- ☐☐☐ Look back at incidents, suspicious activity and near misses. If the same weakness keeps appearing, update the risk assessment and improve the control.
- ☐☐☐ Confirm everyone who needs to know the closing routine understands their responsibilities, including family, staff, contractors or keyholders as relevant.

Issue / action required	
Responsible person / role	
Target date	
Completed	

Good routine security is layered: deter access, delay entry, detect activity and keep valuable assets identifiable. This checklist reflects current police rural-crime prevention themes, but every property is different. Adapt it to your own risks and do not confront suspicious persons.

Guidance basis: Police.uk rural crime prevention and current English police rural-property advice. Version 1.0 - September 2026.

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Action Register

Rural Property Security Routine

SECURITY INFORMATION: store completed copies securely and restrict access to people who need it.

Ref	Action required	Owner	Due	Closed
1				
2				
3				
4				
5				
6				
7				
8				
9				
10				
11				
12				
13				
14				
15				

Use the Action column in the checklist for anything that needs correction, then record the detail here.