

A photograph of a window with a flower box. The window has a wooden frame and a decorative pattern on the glass. The flower box is filled with red geraniums. A pink decorative overlay is on the left side of the image.

Keeping your
home safe
in Spring & Summer



Are you ready?

With winter behind us, thoughts turn to the longer, sunnier days ahead. We've put together tips for freshening things up outside plus helpful tips for holiday time home security. All in a handy checklist so you can enjoy a bright and breezy spring and summer, effortlessly.

Tips to get your home & garden sunshine-ready

- Outdoor lighting**
Clean outside light fittings and check all bulbs are in working order. If any need replacing, opt for energy-efficient alternatives to reduce your electricity bill.
- Exterior appearance**
Give your home a little TLC. Clean or touch up paintwork, wipe down uPVC windowsills and doors, re-stain woodwork and replace door furniture to give your home exterior a fresh new look.
- Paths and patios**
Invest in, or borrow, a pressure washer to bring paths and patios back to life. You could use this opportunity to repair or replace broken flagstones or paving, too.
- Plants and gardens**
Plant hanging baskets or tubs for the front of your house. This will brighten up your outside space and can hide ugly features, like drain pipes or bins, too. Pruning overgrown shrubs can also spruce up a garden in an instant.
- Guttering and drains**
Clearing out any leaves and winter debris that could cause a blockage ensures that April showers will be able to flow freely away from your home. If you have to climb a ladder, make sure there's someone to hold it steady.

If you are unsure about carrying out any of these checks then please consult an appropriate and trusted tradesperson.



Tips for a safer home while you're away

- Make your home look lived in**
Set timer switches so lights, music and the television come on intermittently throughout the day and evening. And remember to cancel deliveries so papers and milk don't stack up.
- Call on a friend or neighbour**
Ask someone to keep an eye on your home. They could park on your drive, pick up mail, use your bins, or open and shut your curtains for you. If asking a neighbour isn't an option, Royal Mail's Keepsafe™ service holds your mail for up to 66 days.
- Upgrade locks and alarms**
Ensure windows and doors are fitted with locks. Exterior doors should have a minimum of two locks, one of which should be a secure mortice with five or more levers. Alarms are also worth considering – from a dummy alarm box that may act as a deterrent to a more expensive system.
- Keep it to yourself**
Encourage younger members of the family to keep holiday plans quiet on social media, avoid disclosing details with your taxi driver en route to the airport and don't change your answer machine message to tell callers that you're away. Simple steps but wise moves.
- Do you know who to contact in case of emergency?**
Having all your useful numbers together in one place means you won't have to go looking for them in an emergency. To help you do it, we've created a quick list for you to complete on the back of this leaflet.



Fill in your details below and bring them into your local branch. Our team will offer you a no obligations insurance review.

Mr/Mrs/Ms/Other
 Surname
 Address

 Postcode Date of Birth
 Tel
 Email
 Telephone daytime (9am - 5pm)
 Mobile

Are you an existing customer of Marsden Building Society?
 Yes No Account number

Best contact time
 Morning Afternoon Evening Saturday

Please tick as appropriate

Type of property
 Detached Bungalow Bungalow Flat
 Detached Semi-Detached Terraced
 End Terraced

Number of bedrooms
 1 2 3 4 5 6+

Age of property
 Pre 1700 1700-1840 1841-1919 1920-1945
 1946-1979 1980-1995 Post 1996

Do you require accidental damage?
 Yes No

Type of policy
 Buildings & Contents Contents Buildings Landlord

Your expiry date
 Current provider

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