

Catalytic converter theft prevention advice



A catalytic converter helps clean your car's exhaust emissions, it is made up of precious metals such as rhodium, platinum and palladium. The price of some of these metals has risen sharply in recent years.

Cars that are most often targeted are hybrid vehicles as the converter is used less frequently.

Whilst there are many makes of vehicles subject to this type of offence, here in West Yorkshire, the following makes/models are particularly vulnerable:

Toyota Prius Toyota Auris Honda Jazz Honda CR-V

To reduce the risk of having your catalytic converter stolen, follow the advice below:

- Park your car in a locked garage where possible, but if this isn't an option, then park it in a well-lit and well-populated area
- Park close to fences, walls or a kerb with the exhaust being closest to the fence, wall or kerb to make the theft more difficult
- Avoid parking your vehicle half on the pavement and half on the road, as this may make it easier for thieves to access the catalytic converter
- If there is a fleet of vehicles, park the low clearance vehicles to block the high clearance vehicles
- For thefts occurring on driveways, consider the use of a Secured by Design (SBD) approved driveway alarm and sensor. This may assist in alerting you of a potential intruder entering your driveway or garden
- Use a security marking kit to register your catalytic converter
- Consider a catalytic converter protection device or shield which locks in around the converter to make it more difficult to remove. Toyota are offering a 'Catloc' for the Prius (3rd generation, 2009-2011 models) and Auris (2nd generation, 2012-2018 models). Contact your Toyota dealership for more information
- Speak to your dealership about the possibility of installing a Thatcham approved alarm and tilt sensor that will activate the alarm should any thief try to jack the vehicle up to steal the converter
- If you see someone acting suspiciously under a vehicle, report it to the Police. Obtain as much information as possible, including any vehicle registrations

