



Break, enter and steal

Small businesses are prime targets for burglars and robbers. Because your business may be the victim of a robbery or a break enter and steal, you should be aware of preventative measures that will reduce the impact of these crimes.

Break enter and steal is any unlawful entry to commit a theft. Retailers whose stores have been broken into know that break enter and steal are costly – both financially and through time spent investigating and recouping loss.

Prevention must start with the business owner and their team. Use a combination of the following measures to protect your store from being broken into, including:

- suitable locks
- an appropriate alarm system
- adequate indoor and outside lighting
- a secure store safe.

In addition, the owners of high-risk stores should also consider using:

- open style security grilles or shutters to increase visibility, but reduce opportunities for vandalism
- burglar-resistant glass windows
- security patrols
- watchdogs.