

Police advice on how to keep your dog safe from theft

Following increased numbers of incidents throughout the country, Police Scotland have issued some advice to help keep you and your dog safe from dog theft.

Make sure your dog's microchip is kept up to date.



Use a collar & dog tag displaying your contact details (use your surname, not your dog's name)

Vary the times you walk & the routes you take. Practice good recall & make sure your dog is always in sight

Be wary of strangers asking you questions about your dog

Make sure your garden is secure & don't leave your dog outside unsupervised

Don't leave your dog tied up alone, outside shops

Dogs in cars are an easy target – don't leave them unattended

Be extra vigilant if you have a pregnant dog or litter of puppies

Be wary of what details you share online, such as walking routes or specific locations

What should you do if your dog is lost or suspected stolen?

Phone 101 to report a stolen or missing dog, unless you're witnessing the crime taking place then phone 999

Notify your dog's microchip database

Post on social media & missing animal websites

Call local vet clinics, rescues and the local animal warden