DARKER NIGHTS, TURN ON YOUR LIGHTS!

A dark house will look empty to a burglar. Make sure it looks like you’re in. Turn over for more tips.
During the winter months, burglary increases by 12.8%. Most burglars are opportunists and will look for ways to enter your home where they find an insecure point. These are just a few actions you can take to make your home more secure.

- Close and lock all windows and doors every time you leave your house or go to bed
- Make sure your door is locked properly i.e. lift the handle, turn the key and then remove the key
- Do not leave your keys by the front door or in view of windows but ensure they are easy to access should you need to get out in an emergency
- If you have a burglar alarm, use it at all times, even when you’re just popping out or zone off areas before going to bed
- Secure your boundaries and ensure access to your garden is not easily obtained
- Secure your sheds and garages as they contain valuable items and tools that can be used to break into your home
- Leave lights on, or on timers to give the impression your house is occupied
- Don’t leave valuable items on display
- Mark your property and register your items free on www.immobilise.com
- Do not ‘check in’ on social media, as this identifies your house is empty

For more information on how to keep your property secure during the winter months, visit: essex.police.uk/secure