

## **Burglar alarms and security**

In recent years personal security has increased dramatically, mainly due to technological developments it is now possible to secure every corner of your home and work with devices so small they can pass unnoticed to the unwary thief. Technology now plays a vital role in our security. Once set up, a computer network can be programmed to sense the speed of passing cars and record the vehicles details. The costs of Computer systems has reduced dramatically in recent years, and as they only require a single investment, often lasting many years without the need for repair. Home systems are now more affordable and can make elder people feel a lot more secure. Systems are very affordable and there is a system for most homes, often consisting of some of the following components

- **Motion detectors** - these are small sensors that are often positioned in the top corners of room. They cover the entire room and can be set to various degrees of sensitivity and send a signal back to the central control computer which is programmed to take appropriate action, this may be in the form of a light flash, blinding the visitor, a deafening siren to frighten the burglar, and alarm going off telling them that they have been detected or an automatic call to the police.
- **Glass breaker detectors** - These sensors are attached to windows and sense when the glass is broken, by a brick or a similar foreign object as a burglar attempt his intrusion.
- **Door and window locks** - Making doors and windows very hard to open, as there is additional security, if the windows are broken the window sensors set off an alarm.
- **Alarm** - This scares off the burglars as it disrupts their silent intrusion, and can be linked up to a variety of other sensors and go off when an event happens.
- **Floor Mat** - Sensors can be placed in the floor and when the person is away, or not present in the area an alarm can be programmed to go off if anyone enters the room. Another alternative on this idea is a keypad is placed next to the doorway, and as you enter the room you have 5 seconds to tap in a key code or an alarm sounds.
- **Heat Sensor** - In case of a fire or signals a fire may be forming, you can be warned in advance and get out of the premises safely, possibly giving you enough time to call the necessary services saving your property.
- **Smoke Sensor** - An easy to install essential precaution against fires, especially useful at night when you are asleep and smoke can gradually dull your senses until it is too late.
- **Panic Button** - In case of attack small buttons can be placed in locations around your house which you can hit in case of an attack, this sets of an alarm and could call the police.
- **Central control system** - this is where the other device send their signals, depending how the system is set up it can automatically set of alarms or ring the emergency services.