

CATALYTIC CONVERTOR THEFT:

How you can prevent it

Precious metals such as rhodium, platinum and palladium are used in catalytic converters. The price of some of these metals has risen sharply in recent years and as a result has led to an increase in the theft of catalytic converters.

Cars that are most often targeted are hybrid vehicles, as these vehicles have two power sources, so the catalytic converter is used less frequently. The metals are less likely to corrode, meaning they are worth more and therefore more attractive to thieves.

Hybrid cars and some Japanese makes are popular targets for offenders. Vans and SUV's are particularly at risk, as the ride height makes access to the exhaust system beneath them easier.





On diesel cars, the diesel oxidation catalyst is often integrated with the Diesel Particulate Filter (DPF) and there is evidence that these are being stolen for their scrap value too.

To keep your vehicle safe, ask your manufacturer or dealer if they can give you any advice on locks or guards to protect the catalytic converters under the vehicle.

For safety reasons, any products will need to be approved by the vehicle manufacturer for use on your vehicle model and you should also make your insurance company aware of any vehicle modifications.

Once an unmarked converter has been removed from a vehicle it's quite difficult to match it to that vehicle, as there aren't any distinguishing marks.

Security marking of catalytic converters is possible with a heat resistant marking system and is best applied by a garage when the vehicle is being serviced.

Secured By Design member companies that provide catalytic marking systems include:

Catalytic Convertor Marking System.

Retainerguard Catalytic Convertor Kit

Secured by Design is the only way for companies to obtain police recognition for security-related products in the UK. A list of Secured by Design member companies that have security products which have achieved our Police Preferred Specification.

For more information visit their website: www.securedbydesign.com