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News

URL: <https://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-6652383/Keyless-car-thieves-steal-Range-Rover-Sport-worth-60-000-Harborne-Birmingham.html>

**Title:** Gone in 40 seconds! Moment keyless car thieves steal £60,000 Land Rover from owner's drive using '£80' relay device - despite keys being in signal-blocking pouch.

**Summary:** (1) CCTV footage shows gang of three target driveway in Harbone, Birmingham. (2) They use the 'relay' technique to trick keyless car system into unlocking itself. (3) Men manage to drive off in the £60,000 4x4 less than a minute after they arrive. (4) They stole the car despite owners' anti-theft 'faraday pouch' that blocks signal.

**Authors:** Lara Key for MAILONLINE.

**Published:** 06:26 EST, 31 January 2019.

**Article snippet:** This is the moment three masked thieves manage to steal a £60,000 Range Rover in just 40 seconds - while its unsuspecting owners are asleep upstairs. CCTV footage captures three men using an amplifier or 'relay device' to trick the keyless security system of a £60,000 Range Rover Sport into unlocking itself during the early hours of Tuesday morning. One man is seen holding the device, which can be bought online for around £80, while his accomplices wait further back. It takes them just 40 seconds to unlock the car and drive away from the property in Harborne, Birmingham. The brazen thieves managed to steal the vehicle despite the owners having a special gadget called a 'faraday pouch' that blocks the signal of the keys inside and prevents relay attacks. Police are now investigating the theft but no arrests have been made. So-called 'relay' theft occurs when two thieves work together to break into keyless cars. They use equipment to capture electromagnetic signals emitted by keyfobs. One person stands by the car with a transmitter, while the other stands by the house with another, which picks up the signal from the electronic key, usually kept near the front door on a table or hook. This is then relayed to the transmitter by the vehicle, causing it to think the key is in close proximity and prompting it to open. Thieves can then drive the vehicle away thanks to the keyless ignition and quickly replace locks and entry devices. The brazen Birmingham crooks managed to outsmart a pouch device that is supposed to block the key's signal and prevent relay attacks. One of the victims, a 36-year-old mother-of-two, said: 'Me and my partner were sleeping and I then got up to feed my baby at about 1am. My husband then heard our car alarm go off at 1.40am so he looked out of the window and to his horror, there was a group of masked men jumping into our Land Rover Sport. He quickly jumped out of bed and alerted me, but by that time, they had driven the car away. It was an extremely horrible and shocking moment, these individuals clearly had no fear in committing a crime. We have had the car since 2014 and were thinking about buying another one but the theft has put that plan on hold for now. What was even more strange was that the keys were kept in a Faraday pouch which is designed to prevent the car key fob signal from being picked up by an external device. This clearly wasn't effective.' Footage from the family's CCTV camera shows three men approaching their house. One man stands by the front door - seemingly with an amplifier - while his accomplices wait. The equipment works by capturing signals emitted by certain keys so thieves can then drive the vehicle away and later replace the locks. The devices can be purchased for as little as £80 each, according to experts. The homeowner added: 'It is clear that this type of crime is becoming the norm and accepted by society. People need to know they can't get away with this sort of stuff.' A West Midlands Police spokesperson, said: 'We are investigating the theft of a red Range Rover from an address in Knightlow Road in Harborne which is believed to have taken place in the early hours of Tuesday, January 29.' David Jamieson, the police and crime commissioner for West Midlands Police, said: 'Thefts involving electronic devices are on the up and it's clear that manufacturers could do more to make their vehicles secure.' Almost every model of keyless entry car can be hacked into using relay devices, with attacks becoming more and more common nationwide. A recent case saw a Ford Focus stolen in just 30 seconds from a driveway in Hampton, London in the middle of the night. CCTV footage revealed how three men worked together in the same way as they did in the Birmingham incident to unlock the vehicle. A police spokesman said: 'Car stolen from a drive in Hampton. How long did it take?? 30 secs. One of the suspects is holding up an aerial to pick up the signal from the key which was actually 25 ft away in an upstairs bedroom. If you have keyless car entry you need to think about blocking the signal.' Although relay attacks can be disconcerting for drivers, simple steps can be taken to prevent them happening. Putting keys in a pouch that blocks the signal and wrapping them in tin foil are among the hacks that can reduce the number of thefts.



URL: <https://www.newsflare.com/video/309765/crime-accidents/shocking-moment-robbers-use-keyless-hack-to-steal-90-000-tesla-in-30-seconds-in-uk>

**Title:** Shocking moment robbers use keyless hack to steal £90,000 Tesla in 30 seconds in UK.

**Authors:** mr.h.vadgama

**Published:** 21 August 2019.

**Article snippet:** The shocking moment is captured when robbers in the UK steal a 2019 Tesla early Wednesday (August 21) morning — valued at over £90,000 — in less than 30 seconds using a keyless hack now being more commonly deployed to steal cars. "It was absolutely shocking how quickly it went," said Hrishi, the homeowner who captured the rapid and brazen robbery with his Ring doorbell camera at his Borehamwood, Hertfordshire, England residence. Hrishi says the car was being loaned to his brother, who had his own Tesla in the shop at the time. Keyless vehicle systems use a simple process: fobs emit a short-range "friendly" radio signal that carries only a few yards. When the associated vehicle is close by (usually within a few metres), the car recognises the signal and unlocks its doors. The same process is used for the ignition on cars with start buttons; the fob signal usually needs to be inside the car itself. Using relay system, key jamming and other hacks, thieves gain nearly immediate access to keyless vehicles. Experts say there are several ways to protect your car from potential theft: deactivating your key fob, keep keys away from doors and windows, or purchasing a wheel lock so that the car cannot be driven even if a thief managed to break into it.



URL: <https://www.birminghammail.co.uk/news/midlands-news/watch-thieves-use-device-break-14870662>

**Title:** Watch: Thieves use device to break into high powered Mercedes AMG and drive it away within seconds.

**Authors:** birminghammail.co.uk

**Published:** 5 July 2018.

**Article snippet:** Gone in 60 seconds. In these astonishing scenes, masked raiders armed with a laptop managed to gain entry into a top of the range Mercedes without a key and drive it away. The theft happened just after 11.35 on Tuesday from a driveway in Bordesley Green. The owner of the blue Mercedes C63 AMG has released footage of the theft to warn car owners to be on their guard. Watch the video above to see the incredible speed it takes to carry out the crime. The victim, a father-of-two who wishes to remain anonymous, said: "It's a complete shock but I'm so fortunate that my family is safe. They go to any lengths to get the vehicle they are after. I'm in complete shock and dismay that anyone has done this to me. I have lived in this area for seven or eight years and I've never had a problem. I want people to be aware. "It's been a headache ringing the insurance, the police, the policy, taking time off work. It was my dream car." A West Midlands Police spokeswoman said: "Police are investigating after a blue Mercedes car was stolen from outside an address in Bordesley Green. "The car was taken sometime between 9.30pm on 3 July and 8.25am on 4 July. "Anyone with information is asked to call West Midlands Police on 101 giving crime reference 20BE/150441A/18." Across the West Midlands, the number of cars stolen has nearly doubled in two years - from 5,344 cars in 2015 to 9,451 cars last year. The national statistics also show a rise. Thieves are using devices which can detect a car key signal from outside the home and relay it to the car unlocking the doors and allowing them to start the motor and drive off - in under a minute. Representatives of car makers BMW, Ford, Nissan, Jaguar Land Rover, Audi and Honda were told to increase car security during talks with the West Midlands Police commissioner in Coventry. David Jamieson called for a change in the law to get electronic devices, being used to trick cars into opening for the criminals, removed from sale on sites like ebay and Amazon and only available to registered mechanics or locksmiths.

URL: <https://www.express.co.uk/life-style/cars/1050901/keyless-car-theft-Mercedes-stolen-driveway-seconds>

**Title:** Two Mercedes' worth over £111,000 Stolen from driveway in Seconds – is yours at risk too?

**Authors:** Luke John Smith

**Published:** 10:06, Tue, Nov 27, 2018.

**Article snippet:** A shocking new video reveals how the owner of two brand new Mercedes' was the victim of a double keyless entry theft. Owner Mohammed Tuma, 57, was completely unaware that over £110,000 worth of cars were being taken from his driveway by criminals while he slept. CCTV footage from the property reveals a gang of three criminals exploiting a relay car theft to pinch the motors in a matter of seconds. A new £55,000 white Mercedes GLE SUV and £55,000 Mercedes GLE 350d were both stolen in early hours of the morning. Two of the crooks stood by the vehicle while another went to the front of the house scanning the front door to find the key fob. If the key fob is in the vicinity of the transmitter by the door, the signal can be fired between a pair of devices, with the other one being by the vehicle, allowing access into the vehicle without the keys. In just 62 seconds both cars were unlocked and stolen from outside of the home in Brent, North London last week. His son Ali, 27, a restaurant worker, said: "I got up at 7am and realised that the cars had gone so I thought that my parents were both out. "Just to make sure I rang them and checked but they were both in bed to my amazement. "It was at that point that alarm bells started to ring. "So I told my parents and we checked our home CCTV which looks onto the drive and shockingly my worst fears came true - the cars had been stolen. "The relay technique was most certainly used here. "My family is fuming. We have had the cars less than six months. "I just can not believe it but when you see the footage they are more or less stolen in the space of a minute. "The whole experience has been extremely shocking and upsetting. "We really hope that we get our cars back." Relay car thefts are becoming more prevalent in the UK with more and more reports of cars being stolen by this method being reported each year. These devices can be bought online for as little as £80, according to experts. The crime works with one criminal standing near the vehicle with a transmitter while the other stands near the home of the vehicle's owner to intercept the signal. The signal is then passed between transmitters, if the fob is detected, allowing the car to be open, started and stolen in a matter of seconds. Thieves then replace the locks for less money and sell the cars on. A Metropolitan Police spokesman said: "Police were called at around 08:18hrs on Tuesday, 20 November to reports of a vehicle theft outside of a property on Alington Crescent in Brent. "It is believed that two cars were stolen at around 02:00hrs. "Enquiries are ongoing; no arrests have been made." Figures released by the Metropolitan Police show car thefts increased by 13 per cent from 27, 971 in 2017 to 31,738 in 2018. Richard Billyeald, chief technical officer at car safety company Thatcham Research said people should be vigilant about car thefts. He said: "Keyless entry systems on cars offer convenience to drivers, but can in some situations be exploited by criminals. "Concerned drivers should contact their dealer for information and guidance, and follow our simple security steps."

URL: <https://www.express.co.uk/life-style/cars/884792/car-stolen-keyless-entry-hack-Mercedes-Solihull-Birmingham-UK>

**Title:** Is your car this easy to steal? Shock video reveals cars hacked and stolen in one minute.

**Authors:** Luke John Smith

**Published:** 09:59, Mon, Nov 27, 2017.

**Article snippet:** Police have release a shocking new video which shows thieves stealing a car from a driveway in one minute without even needing its keys. This is the latest video that has emerged of 'relay' car theft in the UK. [Relay car theft](#) sees criminals use a pair of radio transmitters to trick the car in thinking the crooks have the key. This then allows criminals to simply unlock the doors and start the engine in a crime that takes seconds. In the video a pair in hooded tops are seen pulling up to a house in Solihull, Birmingham, and managing to break into the car with the whole event taking one minute. One of the crooks waves a transmitter in front of the house to try and pick of the signal from the car keys whilst the other stands by the vehicle waiting for the door to unlock. When the lights flash one of the criminals enters the car while the other waits by the door to pick up a signal so the car can be started. The shocking CCTV theft reveals one of the flaws in keyless car entry systems and the proliferation of crimes exploiting the technology. Relay hacking systems can be easily acquired online which makes revelations of thefts all the more scary. Mark Silvester, from the West Midlands Police crime reduction team, said: "To protect against this type of theft, owners can use an additional tested and Thatcham-approved steering lock to cover the entire steering wheel. "We also recommend Thatcham-approved tracking solutions fitted to the vehicle. "It is always worth speaking to your main dealer, to ensure that your car has had all the latest software updates and talk through security concerns with them." Sergeant Tim Evans, from Solihull Police, said: "It's important the public are reassured that we are taking proactive steps to tackle this type of crime in Solihull. "We hope that knowledge of this type of crime will enable members of the public to take simple steps to secure their vehicle and assist us." Earlier this year a German car manufacturer tested the European spec of some of the biggest car manufacturers cars to test how easy they were to break in to using rain transmitters. It transpired that the company managed to gain access to 110 cars from 27 manufacturers with keyless entry cars. Drivers can stop cars being nicked while they are at home by using a Faraday cage, which block the electronic signal. Some key fobs also allow motorists to switch off the signal.

URL: <https://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-5449215/CCTV-shows-car-thieves-steal-keyless-BMW-90-seconds.html>

**Title:** Gone in 90 seconds: Shocking CCTV footage shows car thieves stealing a keyless BMW by simply waving a hi-tech hijacking device over the front door.

**Summary:** (1) Thieves stole BMW off driveway of Uraib Asif in Rochdale, Greater Manchester. (2) Pair held backpack by the front door to block signals from the owner's keyfob. (3) Ms Asif reported car missing and police are still searching for those responsible.

**Authors:** Alex Matthews for Mailonline.

**Published:** 05:28 EST, March 1, 2018.

**Article snippet:** Thieves stole a chauffeur's keyless BMW in just 90 seconds after jamming its blocking system with a hi-tech device and a backpack. The rapid raid was captured by owner Uraib Asif, 28, on CCTV as the crooks pinched the motor off his drive in Rochdale, Greater Manchester. The pair swooped on the luxury car with one holding a backpack by the front door to block signals from the owner's keyfob. Meanwhile a second thief can be seen using a replica fob to quickly open the door of the £17,000 seven series BMW and drive away in just seconds. Mr Asif is now warning motorists to make sure their keys are stored in a metal tin or in a specialist bag to stop this scam. He said: 'It took them minutes to open the car and drive off with it and we didn't know anything about it. 'It is obvious from the CCTV footage that they knew exactly what they were doing as they work so quickly and in tandem. 'My keys were about two feet away from the door. I normally store them far away from the door but I got in late the night before and just threw them on the nearest table. 'I have had people telling me to put them in a metal tin or in special bags as that blocks the signal. 'In the CCTV you can see that once they have opened the car and started the engine one of the men goes to the other side of the road. 'I think he was seeing if any lights came on and if anyone had reacted to the engine being switched on. When they saw that no one had reacted they were happy to go and they were gone.' Mr Asif reported the car missing to the police an hour later as his dad woke by chance and noticed the car had gone. They then reviewed the clear footage and couldn't believe how easily the duo managed to. He added: 'My dad woke up an hour later and noticed that the car had gone and we called the police. 'The annoying thing is that when I started to hear more of these scanner thieves I started to store my keys in a metal tin away from the door but I just became lazy and stopped doing it. 'You never think it is going to happen to you and I won't be making that mistake again. 'We were lucky we had the camera set up and I couldn't believe just how quickly and calmly they did it, the car was gone in seconds. 'They are clearly experienced and it is scary how quickly it can be done and with minimal noise to alert you to it happening. 'We have told the police and they can only do so much, we just need people to be on the lookout. 'I'll be making sure I keep my keys in a tin box from now on so it doesn't happen again. 'I am really struggling without the car as I need it every day for my business. 'I can't afford to cancel on clients because I would lose their future business so I am having to try to find a car to borrow.' Greater Manchester Police have been contacted for comment.

URL: <https://www.newsflare.com/video/319313/crime-accidents/brazen-car-thieves-caught-on-camera-laughing-as-they-steal-audi-from-driveway>

**Title:** Brazen car thieves caught on camera laughing as they steal Audi from driveway.

**Authors:** Newsflare Content Partner.

**Published:** Tuesday, Oct 15th, 2019.

**Article snippet:** This is the shocking moment brazen car thieves were caught on camera laughing as they stole an Audi from a family home before beeping the horn as they drove away. The cheeky crooks were captured on a doorbell camera stealing the £60,000 motor in under a minute from a driveway in the keyless car theft last Tuesday (October 15). The group of four can be seen approaching the blue Audi A5 which was parked on the driveway on Throne Road, in Rowley Regis, West Midlands. One of the suspects approaches the house with what appears to be bolt cutters and an aerial relay while his three pals break into the car.

URL: <https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/ottawa/toyota-lexus-relay-attack-1.5380947>

**Title:** Toyota, Lexus owners warned about thefts that use 'relay attacks'

**Authors:** Stu Mills.

**Published:** 4:00am ET, Dec 03, 2019.

**Article snippet:** Security experts are warning owners of Toyota and Lexus vehicles not to rely on their automobile's anti-theft system following a rash of brazen thefts across the Ottawa region. Since April, criminals have made off with more than 100 of the Japanese-brand vehicles from Petawawa to Casselman, Ont., many of them apparently destined for resale in Africa and the Middle East. Toyota 4Runners, Highlanders, Tacoma pickup trucks and Lexus SUVs worth around \$60,000 each are driven right out of their owners' driveways under cover of darkness, and the thieves never touch the keys. All are made by Toyota. Julie Rollwagen was recently awakened by the distinct roar of her 2015 Lexus GX460's engine coming to life in her driveway in Barrhaven, south of Ottawa. Her bedside clock showed 4:24 a.m. ET. The sound was a selling feature at the Lexus dealership, Rollwagen said. "They'll say, 'Oh, one of the cool features is that it roars when you start it.'" But by the time she'd rolled out of bed, made her way to the garage and opened the door, her vehicle had roared off into the night with a thief at the wheel. **It's going around.** Another Barrhaven resident, Ramzi Yonis, came downstairs one recent Sunday morning to find his 2017 4Runner gone from his driveway. At first he thought his wife, Maha Mankal, had made an unscheduled trip to the gym, but when he went inside she was there, and so were their two Toyota key fobs. Yonis made his way to a car rental outlet in Nepean to arrange for a replacement vehicle, where he bumped into a neighbour who had also just lost a 4Runner to thieves. "If it's not recovered and we have to purchase another car, for sure it won't be another Toyota SUV," Yonis declared. A Barrhaven Facebook group is full of similar declarations from Toyota owners, warning each other to keep an eye out. **Thieves using \$200 'amplifier'.** Like many new cars, modern Toyotas are designed to respond to the radio signal from the key fob within a range of a metre or two. Jeff Bates of Lockdown Security in Markham, Ont., says thieves are using a \$200 device that boosts the strength of that signal, allowing them to unlock the vehicle and disarm its security system even though the fob is inside the house. Driving off with the luxury vehicle is as simple as pushing a button. "What the thieves are using is an amplifier," said Bates, whose company has been doing a brisk business beefing up cars whose owners want to guard against the so-called "relay attacks." Bates said in some cases, thieves will still break into a vehicle the old-fashioned way, then plug a computer into the car's diagnostic port and hack the security system to make it think the key is present. **Bound for resale overseas.** That's probably what happened to Scott Dillon's 4Runner. "The funny thing about the whole story is that my truck never spends any time outside except for the twice a year that I take the tires off it," he laughed. Dillon's home security camera captured thieves capitalizing on that rare window of opportunity in mid-November. OPP later located the truck parked in a lot not far from his home. The door handle had been broken off. Often, the vehicles are never found. Sometimes, they're found at the last minute. Several weeks after thieves drove seven new trucks and SUVs off the lot of a Toyota dealer in Petawawa, Ont., police announced several had been recovered from shipping containers, likely bound for lucrative overseas resale markets. **Taking precautions.** In an email, Toyota spokesperson David Shum said customers should take extra steps to safeguard their vehicles, including considering an after-market alarm system, steering wheel lock and diagnostic-port lock. "If a garage is not accessible, park another less desirable vehicle in front of your vehicle," Shum suggested. While some experts recommend wrapping the key fob in tinfoil or keeping it in a metal box, Toyota suggests buying a radio frequency shielding "faraday pouch" to prevent unwanted radio waves from reaching the device. Shum also warned Toyota owners to never leave their key fobs near the front door of their home. Online, some owners say they've resorted to leaving the fobs in the microwave or freezer. But like Yonis, others say they're not willing to risk another theft, and are looking for a new brand of vehicle. "I loved that vehicle, but no way I'm buying another one," said Julie Kirkpatrick, whose 2016 Highlander disappeared from her driveway in Westboro two weeks ago. "There's no way I'm putting a sacrificial lamb in my driveway again."