



# Theft Act 1968

## CHAPTER 60

### THEFT ACT 1968

#### *Definition of " theft "*

- 1 Basic definition of theft
- 2 " Dishonestly "
- 3 " Appropriates "
- 4 " Property "
- 5 " Belonging to another "
- 6 "With the intention of permanently depriving the other of it"

#### *Theft, robbery, burglary, etc.*

- 7 Theft
- 8 Robbery
- 9 Burglary
- 10 Aggravated burglary
- 11 Removal of articles from places open to the public
- 12 Taking motor vehicle or other conveyance without authority
- 13 Abstracting of electricity
- 14 Extension to thefts from mails outside England and Wales, and robbery etc. on such a theft

#### *Fraud and blackmail*

- 15 Obtaining property by deception
- 16 Obtaining pecuniary advantage by deception
- 17 False accounting
- 18 Liability of company officers for certain offences by company
- 19 False statements by company directors, etc.
- 20 Suppression, etc. of documents

*Status: This is the original version (as it was originally enacted).*

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21 Blackmail

*Offences relating to goods stolen etc.*

- 22 Handling stolen goods  
23 Advertising rewards for return of goods stolen or lost  
24 Scope of offences relating to stolen goods

*Possession of housebreaking implements, etc.*

- 25 Going equipped for stealing etc.

*Enforcement and procedure*

- 26 Search for stolen goods  
27 Evidence and procedure on charge of theft or handling stolen goods  
28 Orders for restitution  
29 Jurisdiction of quarter sessions, and summary trial

*General and consequential provisions*

- 30 Husband and wife  
31 Effect on civil proceedings and rights  
32 Effect on existing law and construction of references to offences  
33 Miscellaneous and consequential amendments, and repeal

*Supplementary*

- 34 Interpretation  
35 Commencement and transitional provisions  
36 Short title, and general provisions as to Scotland and Northern Ireland

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SCHEDULES

SCHEDULE 1 — Offences of Taking, etc. Deer or Fish

*Taking or killing deer*

- 1 (1) A person who unlawfully takes or kills, or attempts...

*Taking or destroying fish*

- 2 (1) Subject to sub-paragraph (2) below, a person who unlawfully...

SCHEDULE 2 — Miscellaneous and Consequential Amendments  
PART I

*Amendments of Post Office Act 1953*

- 1 The Post Office Act 1953 shall have effect subject to...  
2 Sections 22 and 23 shall be amended by substituting for...  
3 In section 52, as it applies outside England and Wales,...  
4 In section 53 for the words from "be guilty" onwards...  
5 In section 54, as it applies outside England and Wales.—...  
6 In sections 55 and 58(1), after the word " imprisonment",...  
7 In section 57— (a) there shall be omitted the words...

- 8 After section 65 there shall be inserted as a new...
- 9 Section 69(2) shall be omitted.
- 10 For section 70 there shall be substituted the following section—...
- 11 In section 72 there shall be added as a new...
- 12 In section 87(1), the definition of "valuable security"...

PART II

*Other amendments extending beyond England and Wales*

PART III

*Amendments limited to England and Wales*

SCHEDULE 3 — Repeals

PART I — PENAL ENACTMENTS SUPERSEDED BY THIS ACT

PART II — OBSOLETE AND REDUNDANT ENACTMENTS

PART III — CONSEQUENTIAL REPEALS