



# 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.
- 12A Aggravated vehicle-taking.
- 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.
- 15A Obtaining a money transfer by deception.
- 15B Section 15A: supplementary.
- 16 Obtaining pecuniary advantage by deception.
- 17 False accounting.

*Changes to legislation: There are currently no known outstanding effects for the Theft Act 1968. (See end of Document for details)*

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- 18 Liability of company officers for certain offences by company.
- 19 False statements by company directors, etc.
- 20 Suppression, etc. of documents.
- 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.
- 24A Dishonestly retaining a wrongful credit.

*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 Spouses and civil partners
- 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

- 1 . . . . .
- 2 *Taking or destroying fish*

SCHEDULE 2 — Miscellaneous and Consequential Amendments

Part I

- 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”, there...
- 7 In section 57— (a) there shall be omitted the words...
- 8 . . . . .
- 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” shall be...
    - 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

**Changes to legislation:**

There are currently no known outstanding effects for the Theft Act 1968.