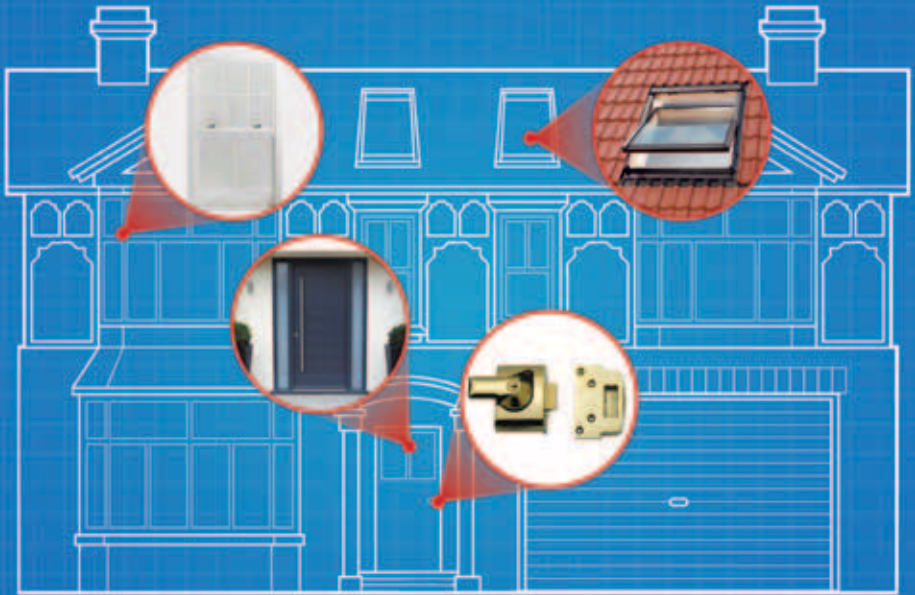




Official Police Security Initiative



A guide to buying
and fitting **Doors,**
Locks and Windows

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Secured by Design is the UK's Official Police security initiative for burglary prevention. A not-for-profit organisation owned by the Association of Chief Police Officers, our goal is to reduce burglary and crime through designing out crime through products and processes. Our results are proven to reduce burglary by 75%.

Our membership scheme has over 450 members who products have been tested to Police Preferred Specification, and are high quality security products.

It's not just doors, locks and windows but also:

- **Empty property protection**
- **Vehicles and Bikes**
- **Property tracking and recovery**
- **Gardens, garages and sheds**
- **Personal security**
- **Safes and Key safes**

For a full list of members and products please visit www.securedbydesign.com/members





Doors

Thirty per cent of all burglaries are still by the front door either being forced or simply by not being locked properly. As the main entrance to your home you should buy good quality products that are tested to high standards. Do not forget the back door, it should be the same standard as the front door as these can still be a potential entry point for burglars.

When buying new doors

- Buy a new “door set” certified to British Standard PAS 24 ‘Doors of Enhanced Security’. Bought as a complete set, this shows that the door, frame, locks and fittings have been attack tested.
- BS PAS 24 door sets are available in different materials. Specify this standard.

- Wooden doors should be solid and at least 44mm (1”) thick.
- Letterboxes should be at least 400mm (16 inches) from any locks.

When refurbishing doors

- Check that the frame is well fixed, and if weak or rotten replace it.

- Check that the door hinges are sturdy and secured with strong, long screws but for added security, fit hinge bolts or security hinges. These help to reinforce the hinge side of a door against force and protect the hinge if your door opens outwards.
- Glass panels on or around doors are vulnerable; it is worth replacing them with laminated glass.
- If fitting locks to a standard door fit a 5-lever mortise lock plus a night latch both tested to BS 3621 (See lock section).
- If fitting locks to PVC-U or metal doors, check with the installer that it will not affect your warranty.

Door security

- Consider fitting a letterbox cage or other restrictor to prevent thieves from putting their hands or gadgets through the letterbox and trying the latches from the inside.
- If you do not have a way of checking who is calling, fit a door

viewer so you can identify people before opening the door.

- Door chains can stop callers pushing their way in, but must be securely fixed to avoid screws being pulled out. They do not contribute to security of a locked door against burglary.
- Fit all security devices with strong screws or bolts.

Patio doors

Patio doors are especially vulnerable to break-in by levering off the tracks.

- When buying ask for the sliding section to be on the inside and for anti-lift blocks.
- Multi-locking systems are recommended or have mortise security bolts with removable keys at the top and bottom of both doors.
- Existing patio doors can be fitted with additional security bolts to stop lifting or forced entry.



Locks

Locks like doors get a lot of use so make sure you buy the right one. If you are purchasing a PAS 24 complete door set you do not need to worry about the lock as this has been tested.

Mortise deadlock

- Mortise locks fit into a slot cut into the edge of the door and usually can only be opened with a key.
- Upgraded these to 5-lever locks tested to BS 3621. This is usually a minimum insurance requirement.
- Locks are based on a range of standard measurements so, with careful matching, replacement is easy.
- A deadlock means a thief can't smash a nearby glass panel to open the door from the inside or, having entered through a window, cannot carry your belongings out through the door.



Rim lock or Night latch



- A rim lock is screwed to the face of the door and latches automatically when you close the door unless held open with the snib.
 - ▶ A snib is a manually operated catch. Once operated it prevents key holders from using the lock externally, or allows the door to be closed without the lock engaging.
- Rim locks should be tested to BS 3621.
- Unless it also has the term **deadlock** attached, it can be opened by turning a knob.
- Automatic deadlocking rim lock, lock automatically when the door is closed and is more secure. It needs a key to open it from both the inside and the outside and should meet BS 3621.
- Locks should be fitted to a door at roughly one third spacing.



Multi-point locking

- These involve several hooks or bolts holding the door into the frame.
- The lock cylinders should be tested to TS007 and can be replaced.
- If your door is PAS 24 and it requires replacement locks, ensure they are changed like for like to continue the level of security.

When using a locksmith it is better to go to one accredited with the Master Locksmith Association as they vet and regularly check all their members.
www.locksmiths.co.uk



Windows

Good windows will not only provide better security for your home but will also insulate better bringing the cost of you heating down as well.

- When replacing windows install windows certified to British Standard BS7950 Windows of Enhanced Security or PAS 24.
- Consider using laminated glass in ground-floor and accessible windows such as those above a flat roof as it holds together when shattered or when someone attempts to break it.
- Ground floor and easy to reach windows, above a flat roof or near a drainpipe, should have locks UNLESS used as a fire escape. In this case laminated glass still provides security.
- Small windows such as skylights or bathroom fanlights need locks.
- Glazing may be further protected with the addition of accredited adhesive window film.

For more information or to
view our members please visit
www.securedbydesign.com



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