A guide to locks

Identify your home security with confidence



hen it comes to your home, privacy and protection is a must. This useful guide to locks will help you to identify the security you already have, helping us to decipher the right cover for you.

Hopefully, it will save you from the tedious guessing game of 'what's what' in the world of locks and bolts. It might also encourage you to consider how effective your security really is.

Common locks, bolts and latches:



Five-lever mortice deadlock

- Hidden inside door
- Locks and unlocks with longer key
- 'Five-lever' is imprinted on face plate



- Has both latch and deadbolt
- Locks and unlocks with longer key
- Impossible for burglar to smash the glass and open the door from the inside

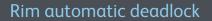


The Kitemark

This Kitemark confirms that your lock has been tested and approved by the British Standards Institution. Along with the symbol, you might see 'BS3621'. This is found on mortice or rim locks where the key can be used on both sides.

Please turnover for more guides to locks >>>

Common locks, bolts and latches continued:



- Fitted on the surface of door
- Locks automatically when closed
- Operated by handle or thumb turn
- Locks with a 'clunk' action

Multi-point locking

- Further secured by at least three locking points
- Commonly found in modern houses
- Often used on uPVC, composite, french and patio doors

Under antique lock and key

Thatched and listed properties are often characterised by the quirks and traditions of historic homes. On older buildings such as these, the locks are a little more complex to identify.

An old lock may not always live up to the standards of an insurer, especially if it's likely to weaken your home security. If this is the case, calling for a locksmith is a good idea. We can recommend where to go to find one.

Solving riddles

Your efforts will not go unrewarded. Once you have identified your locks, your insurer can confirm whether or not you have the minimum acceptable standard of home security. It's important that you know the security you have, so that the policy we provide you with is relevant and valid. If you are struggling to spot a specific lock, we are happy to give you more guidance.

If in doubt - call us!

This list is not exhaustive. If you are still unsure about the details you need to disclose in your policy:

Call us on 01823 250702.



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