



How to Select a Deadbolt Lock

When you plan a new lock installation project, you should definitely consider a deadbolt instead of a traditional latch bolt device. You will get a higher level of security since deadbolts are more resistant to forceful impact and other manipulation techniques involving force. At the same time, not all of these locksets are created equal. Use the following instructions to get the best new lock for your home or office.

Check the rating of the deadbolt and make sure that it covers the entire door lockset and not just certain features. Homes can be effectively protected with devices which are rated as Grade 2 by ANSI while commercial buildings will benefit from using Grade 1 devices. There have been cases of brands promoting locksets as having a particular grade and explaining that it is only for some features in the small print so you have to be extra careful.

Pay close attention to the make of the lock. Brass is an excellent material, especially for exterior door locksets, as it is resistant to rust and corrosion. Ideally, all components will be made from it. If you have budget constraints, however, you need to make sure that at least the plug and cylinder are made from this material. The rest of the hardware can be made from steel. Just remember to avoid door locks with plug and cylinder made from zinc which have brass plating.

Find out what the throw is. The throw shows how far inside the door jamb the bolt goes. Despite the common misconception, this is not the same as the size of the bolt. To get the highest level of protection from any kind of forceful opening attempt, you should ensure that the throw is at least 1 inch.

Evaluate the strength of the strike plate - This piece of hardware is installed on the door jamb and seems unimportant to many people, but it is actually essential for the security of the door and of the entire building. It should be made from tough rust-resistant brass or steel. The screws which secure the strike plate to the jamb at the time of the deadbolt's installation, must be at least 3 inches long. This also contributes immensely to the strength of the strike plate and the entire lock.

Check the number of pins the lock has. These components are part of the plug and are manipulated by the key so that the door can be unlocked. A higher number of pins will make the lock more complex and therefore more resistant to picking. Since the standard option for all kinds of locks including deadbolts is five pins, you can confidently opt for a lock with a system of six pins to get higher security.

The following manual was written by a Locksmith Pasadena professional.

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