

DOOR HANDLE SECURITY

Most door handles fitted more than 5 years ago offer little security and fail to protect the multipoint locking system from attack. In more recent years a standard has been developed against which door handles can be measured to establish that they offer a high level of security – the TS007 standard.

Handles that pass this test are awarded 2 stars, which then have to be marked on the handle and it's packaging. If the product is not marked TS007 then it has not been tested and may not comply. A TS007 handle set has been independently tested by a UKAS accredited test centre to resist burglar attack for 3 minutes – it may not sound a lot but it is a long time to a thief.

Changing door handles on multipoint locking systems is normally very simple – a maximum of 3 screws to take off and refit – but there are different sizes out there so make sure you check the following dimensions:

- Distance between the screws (normally only 2 but occasionally 3)
- Distance between the height of the outside handle and the key (normally 92mm but can vary)
- Distance between the height of the inside handle and the key (normally the same as the outside but is often different)
- Overall length of the backplate of the handle

Once the sizes have been established make sure the replacement handle set you are buying is tested to TS007 – as is our Lifetime Security Door Handle which has the added advantage of stainless steel construction for high corrosion resistance.

TS007 door handle sets are always tested with a locking cylinder which has also been tested and which will carry at least a 1 star rating which again will be marked on the product. See our Cylinder Security Tips for further information.

Fitting a security door handle set is a quick and easy way of making your external doors much more secure and resistant to one of the most common methods of forced entry. Finally – it would be worth checking with your insurer to see if they are prepared to offer a discounted premium in return for upgrading all your entrance doors to TS007 compliant handle sets.

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