

Standards Explained

What You Need To Know



Protect what matters most



National Home Security Month

From 



Standards Explained

Security standards can seem like a whole other language and can often be confusing when trying to decide what security products you should have.

But while you don't need to learn all the ins and outs, it's important to have a basic understanding to know if your home complies and what to look out for. Taking a practical approach to home security will minimise risks and could even reduce your home insurance premiums. Here's what you need to know...

British Standards

The British Standards Institution (BSI) undertakes security testing and certification services for doors, windows and locks. A product certified by the BSI will have the British Kitemark symbol branded on the packaging and product itself.

This stamp of approval acts as an excellent visual deterrent and is recognised worldwide as a symbol of quality, trust and safety. The marking also proves that the product has been tested for quality requirements.

- **BS EN 1303** – Cylinder locks
- **BS EN3 621 / 8621** – The standard for locks fitted to doors
- **BS 7950** – The standard for window security
- **PAS 24** – The standards for door security

PAS 24 differs because it is an independent test carried out on a complete doorset or window-set that holds the test certification.

Testing by the BSI includes weather tightness, endurance and security.





Technical Specifications

A technical specification is a document that outlines and defines a set of requirements that a product must meet or exceed. In regard to door security, TS007 and TS008 are the common specifications referenced. TS007 is a security standard for replacement cylinders and protective door furniture and was introduced amid concerns over the growth in cylinder lock-snapping crimes.

The specification is aimed at protecting cylinder locks against all known methods of forced entry, including manipulation picking, bumping and snapping, and sets out to provide a high level of confidence for users that the cylinder offers an enhanced level of security of your door. The TS007 standard uses a three-star system, in which the cylinder or a combination of security hardware will have an accumulative three stars to meet the minimum-security requirement is one star.

The star rating will be indicated above the BSI Kitemark on the packaging and the product itself. The TS008 refers to the security of letterplates and is in response to lock manipulation and key fishing attacks. The specification also provides fire and smoke protection if inflammable materials or lit fireworks are posted.

CE

You may recognise the CE symbol on security products. The CE mark proves you have fulfilled a set of requirements recognised by the European Union.



Document Q

The Government's new guidance recommended for meeting building regulations ensures that greater levels of security are in place to protect new homes, regulating against poor quality doors, windows and associated hardware.

Under Document Q, all external doors (including garage doors) and windows of new dwellings should be made to meet the security requirements of PAS24, or other standards that exceed or meet this. This is important to consider if you are thinking of building your own property.



Secured by Design

Secured by Design is the official UK Police initiative supporting the principles of 'designing out crime'. The scheme promotes the use of security standards and products receive the stamp of approval once they have met Secured by Design's rigorous testing guidelines. Research has indicated that homes using products and materials that meet Secured by Design's standard are up to 75% less likely to be burgled and show a reduction of 25% in criminal damage.*

FENSA

FENSA stands for the Federation Self-Assessment Scheme, it proves that installers are competent to carry out replacement work which complies with building regulations. A FENSA approved installer is assessed regularly to ensure its standards are continually maintained.

Smart Standards

A new locking standard endorsed by the British Standard Institute (BSI) known as **TS621:2018** is now the recognised UK standard for smart locking devices. To achieve the new standard, the smart lock must undergo rigorous testing, including quality and durability tests as well as physical attack testing.

Smart locks are also required to undertake electronic manipulation and assessments designed to test the electronic security of the lock to ensure it is secure against advanced hacking methods. The standard has been designed to provide homeowners with the peace of mind that they can enjoy the convenience and lifestyle benefits of a smart lock, without having to compromise on the security of their home. The Yale Conexis® L1 Smart Lock has become the first ever smart lock to be British Kitemark approved.



  #NHSM21

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