

LOCKSMITH NEWSLETTER

Choosing the Proper Lock For your Door

Now more than ever there are so many ways to secure a home or apartment. Just how secure you should make yours is up to you. Today's manufacturers offer the consumer several options on how you can secure your home, with hardware ranging from a few dollars in cost to several thousand dollars. How much should you spend on securing your home? Let me help you to decide.

Cylindrical Locksets

There are many types of door locks available today for the consumer to choose from. Which is best for you? Let us take a closer look. The most common and widely available lock is the key in knob lock otherwise known as the cylindrical lockset. This lock has a key placement in the outer knob and a latch bolt, controlled either directly or indirectly by the key operation, locks your door. The price on these locks varies widely. I recommend using a high quality

grade 2 heavy-duty residential lockset such as the Arrow M-Series lockset. The M-Series lockset has a special feature that keeps the door locked from the outside at all times eliminating the worry of whether you locked your door when you left your house. Just close the door and the lockset locks your door behind you. The Department of Justice Victimization Survey estimates that 57.7% of all successful burglaries are the result of an unlocked door or window. The Arrow M-Series is an excellent choice for a cylindrical lockset and is available in all types of styles and finishes. Its sturdy construction makes it an extremely reliable lock and with normal use will last for many years. The Arrow M-Series lockset starts at \$85.00

Auxiliary Deadbolts

Is a cylindrical lockset all that you need to properly secure your door? No! Experts recommend using an

auxiliary deadbolt with a 1-inch throw to properly secure your door. Auxiliary deadbolts offer added protection against forced entry and kick in attacks and they are an excellent deterrent in keeping out burglars. The time it takes to kick in a door with an auxiliary deadbolt is considerably longer than a door without. The National Crime Prevention Institute estimates that burglars will generally work no longer than 60 seconds to obtain entry-- if they cannot penetrate the lock within the 30-60 seconds, they will move on. Choose a high quality heavy-duty residential deadbolt.

If you have any glass in the door within 40 inches of the placement of your deadbolt you might want to replace the glass with something stronger like tempered glass or even plastics such as plexi-glass or polycarbonate sheets that are 20 times stronger than plexi-glass. This will prevent an intruder from breaking the glass and reaching in to unlock your door. Double cylinder locks can also be used on glass doors but you sacrifice safety for security and that is very important when deciding on what type of auxiliary deadbolt you eventually choose.

The D-Series auxiliary deadbolt manufactured by Arrow is an extremely reliable lock made of

solid brass construction offering a 1 inch hardened steel saw proof bolt. It is an excellent choice for an auxiliary deadbolt and prices start at \$55.00

Installation

I recommend having your locks installed by a qualified professional. Poor installation can drastically reduce the security that your lock is meant to offer. I offer professional installation on all of the items mentioned and guarantee their installation on every job. If you're looking to properly secure your home or apartment please give me a call. I offer free estimates and I'll be glad to setup an appointment.

John Bouris is a Certified Registered Locksmith with twenty-five years in the industry. He offers a free basic security analysis of your home or business. He can be reached at jbouris@gmx.com and at 401.580.7267