



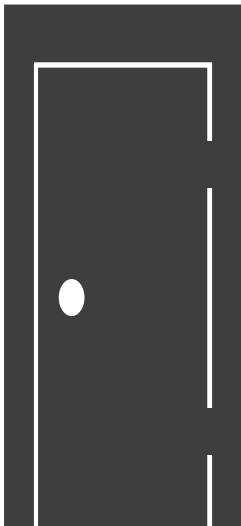
UNIT ENTRY DOORS: FIRE DOORS

A common enquiry from locksmiths regarding the Building Code relates to unit entry doors and what constitutes being 'compliant'.

The first question you'll need to answer is whether the door is **FIRE RATED** or **NOT FIRE RATED**.

Fire Rated Doors should be marked with a FIRE TAG detailing its fire rating, manufacturer, applicant, certifier and year installed.

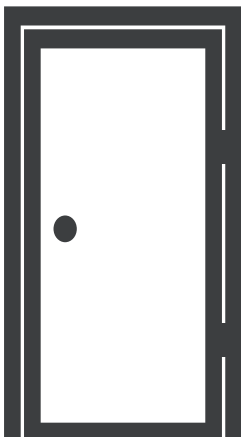
(be careful, sometimes tags have been removed or old fire doors may have been incorrectly replaced with non- fire rated doors).



FIRE RATED UNIT ENTRY DOOR

In the following example, lets assume we have an apartment complex made up of 10 individual units. The units are internal e.g. access is from a central corridor and all unit entry doors are fire doors.

- Deadbolts are NOT permitted because they negate the function of the door being self latching
- The primary lockset must be an approved lock for the fire door construction in question e.g. FIRE RATED
- A secondary lock is permitted to be added to the door provided it doesn't compromise the fire rating of the door. A Lockwood 001 / 002 can be installed provided it is a SECONDARY LOCK.
- *(The 001/002 is NOT FIRE RATED & cannot be used as a PRIMARY lock, however, the 001/002 has been tested and has shown not to compromise the fire rating of the door when installed as a secondary lock).*



NON FIRE RATED UNIT ENTRY DOOR

Using the same example, this time the 10 individual units have non fire rated entry doors.

- Deadbolts are ARE permitted. They have a clear exemption under Section D2.21 (b) ii A - being a sole occupancy unit in a Class 2 Building.
- The owner of the unit or body corporate can request any lock or any number of locks to be added to the door.

KEY POINTS TO REMEMBER WITH FIRE RATED ENTRY DOORS

- Fire Doors must be tagged
- Fire Doors must be self-latching and self-closing
- The Primary lock on a fire door must be fire rated and can be a lever, knob or combination of both
- Deadbolts are not permitted on a Fire Door
- A secondary lock can be added provided it is a 001 or 002 and fitted correctly with a 32mm cylinder hole

FAQ'S

Fire Doors that aren't tagged - What should I do?

Tags are an integral part of the Fire Door. If a Fire Door is missing the tag and it is relatively new, contact the company that installed the door and issued the certificate for re certification. If that fails - suggest the door is replaced.

Do I provide a certificate of compliance if asked?

No. It is not your responsibility and you are certainly not qualified to provide one.

Is a Fire Door with two 54mm holes compliant?

No. The integrity of the Fire Door has been compromised. It must be replaced.

Fire Doors and Asbestos

The use of Asbestos in Fire Doors was outlawed in 1981, however asbestos was still being used up until 1983.

If a Fire Door is damaged to expose friable asbestos material, the material and door will need to be removed by an asbestos removalist who has a certificate to perform the work. *As locksmiths, we should not be removing Fire Doors with asbestos or drilling into them for that matter.*

Please also keep in mind that Buildings that have had recent renovations - the old fire doors containing asbestos may have not been replaced as part of the reno.

What should you do if you come across a Fire Door containing asbestos

Contact your State or Territory Workplace Safety department or asbestos removal professionals.

Building Code or Insurance Company's demands?

The Building Code is king. Insurance Companies demanding that tenants have deadbolts on their front entry unit fire doors cannot do so.

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