

# Fire doors

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About 3 million new fire doors are bought and installed every year in the UK. But to save lives, fire doors must work correctly.

Fire doors are part of a building's passive fire protection system and are fundamental to most fire strategies for buildings. They provide critical protection within a building such as escape routes (stairs and corridors) and places of relative safety, and in separating different fire hazards in a building

## Importance of fire doors

- To save lives, fire doors must work correctly
- Fire doors must be tested and third-party certificated to BS 476 Part 22 or BS EN 1634 Part 1
- Fire doors must be fitted with the correct and compatible components suited to the door leaf and its purpose
- Like any fire safety device, fire doors should be installed and maintained by competent people
- A fire door's performance should never be compromised
- Correct glazing and ironmongery must be used on fire doors
- You must never alter or adapt the door leaf on site
- Correct frames must be used
- Intumescent seals must be used
- Ensure good installation and maintenance
- Never prop a fire door open

## Fire doors - what to do

- Specify and use third-party certificated fire doors and components
- Buy fire doors, frames and components from certificated companies
- Check the certificate matches the door
- Make sure you have the correct certification for the door's intended use
- Install and maintain fire doors using competent personnel
- Make sure that ironmongery components are CE marked

## Fire doors - don't

- Fit a fire door like any other door – it's not, it's an engineered safety device
- Cut vision panels and other holes on site
- Patch up a fire door
- Take risks by reducing the specification
- Disconnect a fire door closer
- Prop or wedge open a fire door