



Glossary of Important Lock and Key Terms

Lock Repair

The work begins with close inspection of the device for signs of damage, as well as testing for identifying the cause of the malfunction. The repair may involve replacing different components of the door lockset such as the cylinder or the locking mechanism. Cleaning and lubrication can also be part of the solution.

Deadbolt Lock

This type of lock is not spring-loaded like the traditional latch ones. This makes it much more difficult to overcome with any of the traditional break-in techniques. Additionally, the deadbolt is not connected to a knob or handle. These pieces of hardware are installed separately on the door.

Lock Rekey

This involves changing the setting of the pins inside the lock cylinder. This means that when you insert the old key, its peaks and valleys won't match the pins and the door will remain locked. That is why lock rekey is an effective solution in case of lost keys.

Strike Plate

This is the piece of lockset hardware installed on the door jamb. It has a number of holes corresponding to the number of bolts of the lock plus a hole for the latch, in case of a traditional latch lock. It is secured to the jamb with screws.

Keying System

This term is used to describe the configuration of the plug which accepts the key. A five-pin keying system is standard for most latch and deadbolt locks. A six-pin one, on the other hand, is more difficult to manipulate and therefore more secure.

Digital Door Lock

The mechanical locking mechanism is replaced by a motor, which works to move the bolt in and out of the strike plate. The motor receives a signal to unlock the door when you enter the correct access code using the digital display.

Lock Throw

This is a measure indicating how far the bolt can go when the door is locked. A greater throw means that the lockset is more resistant to forceful impact. Locks with a throw smaller than 1 inch may not offer a high level of security.

Transponder Key Programing

This involves configuring a new key to work with the vehicle. The challenge comes from the fact that there is typically a unique programming routine involved depending on the brand and model of the car. Generally, the role of the transponder chip is to disable the immobilizer for smooth car start.

Lock Grades

These are given by the American National Standards Institute to indicate how strong, durable and reliable a lockset can be. Grade 1 devices offer the highest level of security and this makes them suitable for commercial buildings. Grade 2 locks are typically recommended for homes.

Key Repair

This can involve anything from cleaning and rust removal to fixing a bent blade. When a key is beyond repair or is greatly worn, it should be replaced right away. You must not use a bent, worn or damaged key for unlocking.

The following manual was written by a Locksmith Chula Vista professional.

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