

## SECURITY INFORMATION WITHOUT ROCKET-SCIENCE UNDERSTANDING PADLOCKS

An enormous variety of padlocks are available – in many shapes and sizes. The most commonly used format is that of the brass padlock shown in the drawing at right below. Similarly shaped padlocks are also available in steel and other hard materials.

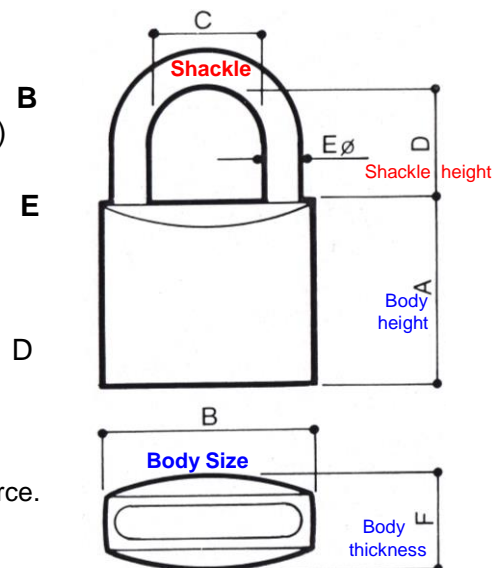
The **three measurements usually most relevant** when choosing a conventional shaped padlock are:

**BODY SIZE:** The Padlock body is measured from left to right when it is lying flat (most commonly 30 – 60mm)

**SHACKLE DIAMETER:** Thickness of the shackle – should be at least few millimetres smaller than the hole through which it must pass (usually 6 – 10 mm)

**SHACKLE HEIGHT:** May be important if there are obstacles through which the shackle must pass  
 The shackle is generally the part of the padlock most likely to be attacked.

- Ball locking shackles are usually more resistant to force.
- Stainless steel shackles are harder



Standard & long shackle brass padlocks



Steel padlock with ball-locking shackle



Steel padlock with rolling shackle



CLOSE SHACKLE Padlocks



Armoured Padlock with rolling shackle

A padlock is only as good as the hasp or other device upon which it is hung!

Climate is an important factor – better quality is needed outdoors

**This information is of a very general nature and is not intended to be all-encompassing**