

SECURITY INFORMATION WITHOUT ROCKET-SCIENCE

UNDERSTANDING THE USE OF CAM LOCKS



Cam locks are popular and widely used because they are economical and are quick and easy to fit – usually by making only one hole. They are available in varying degrees of security, with long and short bodies, with cams of varying lengths and shapes, to suit the specific needs of the door, duct or drawer to be locked.

Due to the fact that the hole-sizes are generally standard (usually 19mm for the brass bodies or 16 mm for the zinc or mazak ones) these locks can be easily and quickly swapped / replaced when a key is lost or stolen.

A cam lock as used in the cabinet and furniture industries usually consists of two basic components – the lock body and the cam.

The Cam Lock Body



4-pin-tumbler brass cam lock body

The better-quality cam locks mostly have brass bodies and pin-tumbler mechanisms, or sophisticated disc systems, offering many different keys for greater security. Quality locks can be ordered master-keyed (all different keys and a master key) or keyed alike (all with the same key).



CISA 5 pin Cam lock



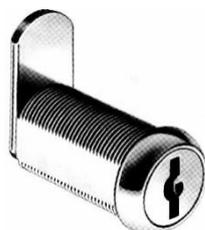
ABLOY disc tumbler cam lock body

The less costly cam locks usually have zinc or mazak bodies and most of them have 4 wafer tumblers.

Those with single-sided keys generally offer a MAXIMUM of 200 different keys which can often be bought by quoting the key number, whereas the cam locks with double-sided keys can offer up to 2000 different keys – depending on price and origin.



Other low-cost Cam Locks include the following:



Cam lock with double-sided key

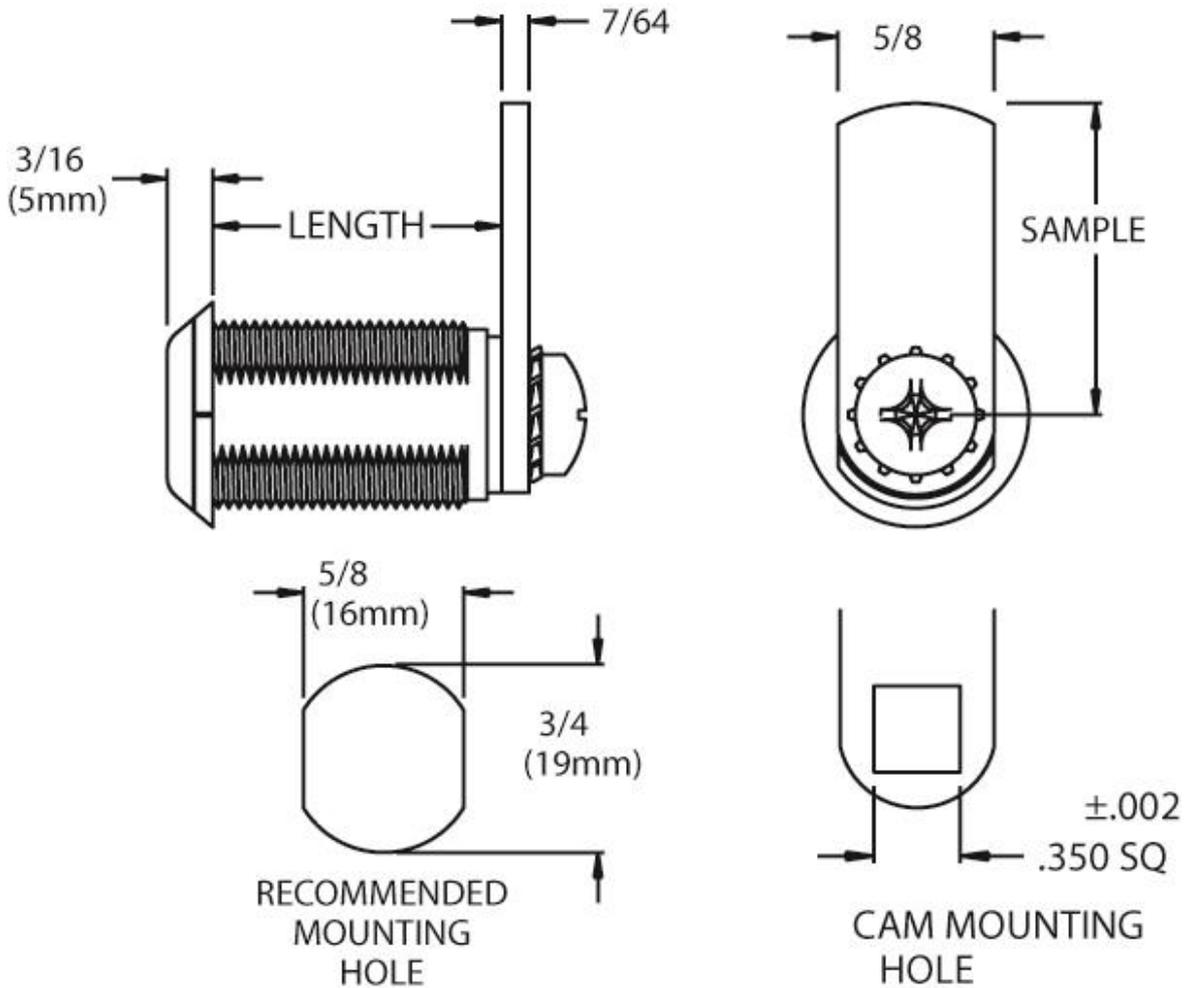


Square faced cam lock for steel furniture



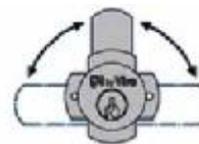
Cam lock with radial key

Dimensions commonly used when specifying a Cam Lock



NOTE that the **length** of the body must be specified when ordering. This length is measured from behind the face of the lock to behind the cam - as illustrated at top left above.

- Ordering options for cam locks may include:
- key removable only in locked position
 - key removable only in unlocked position
 - key-turn 90 degrees or 180 degrees
 - key number stamped on key
 - key number stamped on face of lock



There are many low-cost items available and you will generally 'get what you pay for'.

The Cam



The cam is the part at the back of the lock that does the actual locking as the key is turned through either 90 degrees or 180 degrees. (This must be specified when ordering). The cam is usually made of steel and available in different lengths and shapes to suit the application. Special cams can be made up for quantity orders.

Cams that can usually be ordered include:

- hooked (for sliding doors)
- bent (to make up for difference in level between door and frame)
- caulking (a cam bent to pull the door tighter as it closes)

Some keyless lock options which also use a locking-cam:



Battery operated
Cam Lock



Digital Mechanical
Cam Lock



Digital Mechanical
Cam Lock

The information offered in this leaflet is of a general nature.

We also sell a wide range other electronic cabinet locks, including digital, card and tag-operated locks

We have over 100 years' experience between our Loxperts!

Please supply us with dimensions and pictures and tell us what level of security is needed for your project - to enable us to assist in specifying the correct lock for your specific application

**Keys or Keyless – Wired or Wireless - we can solve all your locking problems.
We also offer door closers, panic and exit hardware, face and finger readers,
and all hardware for doors and for access control.**