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THE LOCKSHOP
LOCKING SINCE 1975
Distributors of locks, door handles,
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SECURITY INFORMATION WITHOUT ROCKET SCIENCE

HOW TO SPECIFY AND BUILD STRONGER STEEL GATES INCORPORATING SUPER STRONG GATE LOCKS

for greater resistance against crow-bars and other attempts at forcible entry

In these troubled times of high crime and violence against people, we should NOT be fitting gates that can be bent and mangled easily with hand tools. Gates should be constructed so that crowbars and similar implements cannot find an entry-point and cannot easily bend the gate or the frame, or damage the lock.

The reason that criminals have been winning the battle for our property is that most gates are too light, have flimsy hinges, and are fitted with light lever-locks that simply pop open under pressure from a crowbar, tire-lever or a big screwdriver! It takes less than 30 seconds to force open the average gate, and even less for the average door!

Gates need to be made out of heavier steel, and all gate locks should be protected from attack by hand tools – which can be used quickly and quietly. The lock and the hinges are most often the ‘weak-link’. Battery powered tools like disc-grinders can cut through most gates – however – the heavier the gate and locks – the longer the gate will take to cut – and the more noise will be made.

GATES

- Gates should NOT be hung on light hinges mounted directly to the wall
- **The gate itself should have an outer frame of no less than 38 x 38 mm steel tubing**
- The gate should be sturdily hinged to a full height steel frame of not less than 38 x 38mm steel tubing – which must be **firmly fixed to the wall- at least on both sides** (and at the top where practical)
- The vertical in-fill bars should be of not less than 12 mm square steel running full-height without welds or joints where they pass through the horizontal steel.
- Gates must be designed and built with a **full length steel cover strip** of at least 30x 5 mm over the gap to prevent tools being inserted between the gate and the frame.
- Padlocks of the standard brass type should NOT be used on gates because they become the point-of-attack. Most padlocks can be cut with a bolt cutter in seconds, and very often the hasps on which they are hung are even easier to cut!
- Morticed locks fitted into steel lock-boxes are a far safer and stronger alternative, and the steel lock-box also protects the lock from direct weather.
- Lock-boxes must be made and galvanised at the same time as the gate.
- Two lock boxes vertically 700 mm apart provide better resistance against attack.
- Horizontal steel support/s need to be welded behind the lock-box/es to prevent the lock and the lock-box box being levered away from the frame with levers and crow-bars.
- **The locks should be chosen before** ordering the gate. The gate should be made to suit the chosen lock, and galvanised **after all the holes are made** – to keep rust out of the steel. (Adding locks afterwards damages the galvanising).



LOCKS FOR GATES

A light lock with a small locking bolt will only deter a thief with a crow-bar or tire lever for a matter of seconds. Choosing the right locks before the gate is designed will obviate the need to cut into the gate to fit locks afterwards.

- Locks with deeper and thicker locking bolts are recommended, because of their extra strength and the fact that they slow the intruder down for longer.
- Cylinder locks are best for most security applications – because the cylinders can be easily changed or upgraded when keys are lost or stolen.
- All gate locks should lock into a slot in the steel outer frame, which should be fitted with the **correct striker plate** supplied with the lock.

The steel deadlocking bolts illustrated at left below are designed for extra security. A steel 'sleeve' (lock-box) D36012003 is available at extra cost for easy welding into the gate.



1117 12 003 /004
Deadbolt and Latch LH
or RH. Latch can be used
with cylinder & handle



1117 12 006
Double Throw heavy
deadbolt for cylinder
operation only



D360 12 002
Steel Box priced
without lock or
or escutcheon



7211 12 076
8 mm thick weld-
on escutcheon

A wide variety of standard and high security cylinders are available for these locks, in different grades of security:



A
Double Cylinder
Key both sides
for open gates



B
Thumb-turn Cylinder
Key outside, thumbturn
inside
only for gates that are closed
(i.e. hands cannot gain access)



C
Half Cylinder
Key outside only
for gates that only need
to be accessed from one side

Cylinders can be ordered **standard** (all keyed different), **keyed alike** (same key for all), or **master-keyed** (each lock with different keys and a master key to fit all).

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