

Single and Double Cylinder Deadbolts and Door Locks

Single cylinder deadbolts and handlesets are operated with a key from the outside, but do not require a key for locking or unlocking from the interior of the property. Instead, the door is locked or unlocked using a thumb-turn style lever.

Double cylinder deadbolts or handlesets require a key for locking and unlocking from both the exterior and the interior of the property. There is no thumb-turn mechanism on a double cylinder lock.

Single cylinder locks are more common than double cylinder. The two main reasons for this are efficiency and economy. Single cylinder locks are usually less costly to purchase and install than double cylinders. They are also more convenient, since there's no need for a key to operate the lock from the inside. A simple thumb turn locks and unlocks the door.

Why purchase a double cylinder lock? The main reason for doing so is enhanced security. This is particularly true for doors that have glass panels or adjacent windows (i.e. an arm's reach). An intruder could unlock the door by breaking the glass and reaching inside. Installing double cylinder locks on exterior doors eliminates this problem. Since there is no thumb-turn, intruders cannot reach inside to unlock doors manually through broken windows.

Full dummy function - These sets are full-size door knobs or handlesets that have no mechanical latch mechanism. They are flush mounted and require no mortise, or hole, through the face of the door. Full dummy sets are used in certain decorative applications such as double doors, closet, pantry and utility space doors. A dummy knob or handleset cannot be distinguished from its fully functional counterpart by simple visual inspection, allowing it to blend into the hardware scheme of your home.