Terms and Definitions for Door and Window Security

Law Enforcement Equipment Technology

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Terms and Definitions for Door and Window Security

by

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FOREWORD

The Law Enforcement Standards Laboratory (LESL) of the National Bureau of Standards (NBS) furnishes technical support to the National Institute of Law Enforcement and Criminal Justice (NILECJ) program to strengthen law enforcement and criminal justice in the United States. LESL’s function is to conduct research that will assist law enforcement and criminal justice agencies in the selection and procurement of quality equipment.

LESL is: (1) Subjecting existing equipment to laboratory testing and evaluation and (2) conducting research leading to the development of several series of documents, including national voluntary equipment standards, user guidelines, state-of-the-art surveys and other reports.

This document is a law enforcement equipment report developed by LESL under the sponsorship of NILECJ. Additional reports as well as other documents are being issued under the LESL program in the areas of protective equipment, communications equipment, security systems, weapons, emergency equipment, investigative aids, vehicles and clothing.

Technical comments and suggestions concerning the subject matter of this report are invited from all interested parties. Comments should be addressed to the Law Enforcement Standards Laboratory, National Bureau of Standards, Washington, D.C. 20234.

Jacob J. Diamond
Chief, Law Enforcement Standards Laboratory
Preface

The physical security of door and window assemblies is dependent upon the design, the construction and the materials of the millwork, hardware, glazing and fabricated metal items which are used to make up such assemblies. The various building and manufacturing industries have evolved separate overlapping vocabularies, resulting in a lack of uniform terminology.

This glossary provides definitions for those terms most often encountered in the spoken and written vocabulary concerning door and window security. It was compiled from many sources including dictionaries, glossaries, the professional literature, and technical publications. Accepted definitions were used as found, or rewritten into simpler and more descriptive language.

Alarm systems are often used to supplement the physical security which is provided by door and window assemblies.

A companion document, LESP-RPT-0305.00, Terms and Definitions for Intrusion Alarm Systems (Government Printing Office, Stock Number 027-000-00290-1; price 65 cents), provides a glossary of the terminology of that closely related field of security.
TERMS AND DEFINITIONS FOR DOOR AND WINDOW SECURITY

ABSTRACT

This is a glossary of definitions for those terms most frequently encountered in the spoken and written vocabulary concerning door and window security. Compiled from dictionaries, glossaries, professional literature and technical publications, the definitions were either used as found or rewritten into simpler and more descriptive language. Terms and definitions for alarm systems are not included.

Key words: Definitions; doors; glossary; security terms; windows.

ACCESS CONTROL—A method of providing security by restricting the movement of persons into or within a protected area.

ACCESSIBLE WINDOW—(1) Residential—any window located within 3.7 meters (12 feet) of grade or a building projection. (2) Commercial—any window located within 4.6 meters (18 feet) of grade or within 3 meters (10 feet) of any fire escape or other structure accessible from public or semi-public areas.

ACCORDION GATE—See SLIDING METAL GATE.

ACE LOCK—A type of pin tumbler lock in which the pins are installed in a circle around the axis of the cylinder, and move perpendicularly to the face of the cylinder. The shear line of the driver and bottom tumblers is a plane parallel to the face of the cylinder. This type of lock is operated with a push key.

ACTIVE DOOR (or LEAF)—The leaf of a double door that must be opened first and which is used in normal pedestrian traffic. This leaf is usually the one in which a lock is installed.

ANCHOR—A device used to secure a building part or component to adjoining construction or to a supporting member. See also FLOOR ANCHOR, JAMB ANCHOR and STUD ANCHOR.

ANTI-FRICTION LATCH—A latch bolt that incorporates any device which reduces the closing friction between the latch and the strike.

APPLIED TRIM—A separately applied molding used as the finishing face trim of a frame.

APRON—The flat member of a window trim placed against the wall immediately beneath the windowsill.

ARCHITECTURAL HARDWARE—See FINISH BUILDERS’ HARDWARE.

AREAWAY—An open subsurface space adjacent to a building which is used to admit light or to provide a means of access to the building.

ARMORED FRONT—A plate or plates which is secured to the lock front of a mortised lock by machine screws in order to provide protection against tampering with the cylinder set screws. Also called armored face plate.

ASTRAGAL—A member fixed to, or a projection of, an edge of a door or window to cover the joint between the meeting of stiles: usually fixed to one of a pair of swinging doors to provide a seal against the passage of weather, light, noise or smoke.

ATTACKS—The physical methods used by burglars in gaining or attempting to gain illegal entry. These methods have been divided into the following categories: bodily force, bolt attacks, lock attacks, disassembly, and inside unlocking.

 AUXILIARY LOCK—A lock installed on a door or window to supplement a previously installed primary lock. Also called a secondary lock. It can be a mortised, bored or rim lock.

BACK PLATE—A metal plate on the inside of a door which is used to clamp a pin or disc tumbler rim lock cylinder to the door by means of retaining screws. The tail piece of the cylinder extends through a hole in the back plate.

BACKSET, FLUSH BOLT—The distance from the vertical centerline of the lock edge of a door to the centerline of the bolt.

BACKSET, HINGE—On a door, the distance from the stop face to the edge of the hinge cutout. On a frame, the distance from the stop to the edge of the hinge cutout.
BACKSET, LOCK—The horizontal distance from the vertical centerline of the face plate to the center of the lock cylinder keyway or knob spindle.

BACKSET, STRIKE—The distance from the door stop to the edge of the strike cutout.

BAFFLE—See GUARD PLATE.

BALANCED DOOR—A door equipped with double-pivoted hardware so designed as to cause a semi-counterbalanced swing action when it is opened.

BARREL KEY—A key with a bit projecting from a round, hollow key shank which fits on a post in the lock.

BARRICADE BOLT—A massive metal bar that engages large strikes on both sides of a door. Barricade bolts are available with locking devices, and are completely removed from the door when not in use.

BEAD—See GLAZING BEAD.

BEVEL (of a door)—The angle of the lock edge of the door in relation to its face. The standard bevel is 0.32 cm in 5.1 cm (1/8" in 2").

BEVEL (of a latch bolt)—A term used to indicate the direction in which a latch bolt is inclined: regular bevel for doors opening in, reverse bevel for doors opening out.

BEVEL (of a lock front)—The angle of a lock front when not at a right angle to the lock case, allowing the front to be applied flush with the edge of a beveled door.

BICENTRIC PIN TUMBLER CYLINDER—A cylinder having two cores and two sets of pins, each having different combinations. This cylinder requires two separate keys, used simultaneously, to operate it. The cam or tail piece is gear operated.

BIT—A blade projecting from a key shank which engages with and actuates the bolt or level tumblers of a lock.

BIT KEY—A key with a bit projecting from a round shank. Similar to the barrel key but with a solid rather than hollow shank.

BITTING—See CUT.

BLANK—An uncut key or an unfinished key as it comes from the manufacturer, before any cuts have been made on it.

BLIND STOP—A rectangular molding, locating between the outside trim and the outside sashes, used in the assembly of a window frame. Serves as a stop for storm, screen or combination windows and to resist air infiltration.

BODILY FORCE—A category of burglary attack using the weight and strength of the body without the aid of special tools. This attack is directed at the entire assembly rather than a particular component.

BOLT—That part of a lock which, when actuated, is projected (or “thrown”) from the lock into a retaining member, such as a strike plate, to prevent a door or window from moving or opening. See also DEAD BOLT, FLUSH BOLT, and LATCH.

BOLT ATTACK—A category of burglary attack in which force, with or without the aid of tools, is directed against the bolt in an attempt to disengage it from the strike or to break it.

BOLT PROJECTION (BOLT THROW)—The distance from the edge of the door, at the bolt centerline, to the furthest point on the bolt in the projected position.

BORED LOCK (or LATCH)—A lock or latch whose parts are intended for installation in holes bored in a door. See also KEY-IN-KNOB LOCK.

BOTTOM PIN—One of the pin tumblers which determine the combination of a pin tumbler cylinder and are directly contacted by the key. They are varied in length and usually tapered at one end, enabling them to fit into the “V” cuts made in a key. When the proper key is inserted, the bottom pins level off at the cylinder core shearline, allowing the core to turn and actuate the lock.

BOTTOM RAIL—The horizontal rail at the bottom of a door or window connecting the vertical edge members (stiles).

BOX STRIKE—A strike plate that has a metal box or housing to fully enclose the projected bolt and/or latch.

BREAKAWAY STRIKE—See ELECTRIC STRIKE.

BUCK—See ROUGH BUCK.

BUILDERS’ HARDWARE—All hardware used in building construction, but particularly that used on or in connection with doors, windows, cabinets and other moving members.

BUMPING—A method of opening a pin tumbler lock by means of vibration produced by a wooden or rubber mallet.

BURGLAR-RESISTANT GLAZING—Any glazing which is more difficult to break through than the common window or plate glass, designed to resist burglary attacks of the hit-and-run type.

BUTT HINGE—A type of hinge which has matching rectangular leaves and multiple bearing contacts, and is designed to be mounted in mortises in the door edge and in the frame.

BUTTRESS LOCK—A lock which secures a door by wedging a bar between the door and the floor. Some incorporate a movable steel rod which fits
into metal receiving slots on the door and in the floor. Also called police bolt/brace.

CABINET JAMB—A door frame in three or more pieces, usually shipped knocked down for field assembly over a rough buck.

CAM—The part of a lock or cylinder which rotates to actuate the bolt or latch as the key is turned. The cam may also act as the bolt.

CAM, LAZY—A cam which moves less than the rotation of the cylinder core.

CAM LOCK—See CRESCENT SASH LOCK.

CANE BOLT—A heavy cane-shaped bolt with the top bent at right angles; used on the bottom of doors.

CASE—The housing in which a lock mechanism is mounted and enclosed.

CASEMENT HINGE—A hinge for swinging a casement window.

CASEMENT WINDOW—A type of window which is hinged on the vertical edge.

CASING—Molding of various widths and thicknesses used to trim door and window openings at the jambs.

CENTER-HUNG DOOR—A door hung on center pivots.

CENTER RAIL—The horizontal rail in a door, usually located at lock height to separate the upper and lower panels of a recessed panel type door.

CHAIN BOLT—A vertical spring-loaded bolt mounted at the top of a door. It is manually actuated by a chain.

CHAIN DOOR INTERVIEWER—An auxiliary locking device which allows a door to be opened slightly, but restrains it from being fully opened. It consists of a chain with one end attached to the door jamb and the other attached to a keyed metal piece which slides in a slotted metal plate attached to the door. Some chain door interviewers incorporate a keyed lock operated from the inside.

CHANGE KEY—A key that will operate only one lock or a group of keyed-alike locks, as distinguished from a master key. See also KEYED-ALIKE CYLINDERS and MASTER KEY SYSTEM.

CHANGES—The number of possible key changes or combination changes to a lock cylinder.

CHECKRAILS—The meeting rails of double-hung windows. They are usually beveled, and thick enough to fill the space between the top and bottom sash due to the parting stop in the window frame.

CLEARANCE—A space intentionally provided between components, either to facilitate operation or installation, to insure proper separation, to accommodate dimensional variations or for other reasons. See also DOOR CLEARANCE.

CLEVIS—A metal link used to attach a chain to a padlock.

CODE—An arrangement of numbers or letters which is used to specify a combination for the bitting of a key or the pins of a cylinder core.

COMBINATION—(1) The sequence and depth of cuts on a key. (2) The sequence of numbers to which a combination lock is set.

COMBINATION DOORS OR WINDOWS—Storm doors or windows permanently installed over the primary doors or windows. They provide insulation and summer ventilation and often have self-storing or removable glass and screen inserts.

COMMON ENTRY DOOR (of a multiple dwelling)—Any door in a multiple dwelling which provides access between the semi-public, interior areas of the building and the out-of-doors areas surrounding the building.

COMMUNICATING FRAME—A double rabbeted frame with both rabbets prepared for single-swing doors that open in opposite directions. Doors may be of the same or opposite hand.

COMPONENT—A subassembly which is combined with other components to make an entire system. Door assembly components include the door, lock, hinges, jamb/strike, and jamb/wall.

COMPOSITE DOOR—A door constructed of a solid core material with facing and edges of different materials.

CONNECTING BAR—A flat metal bar attached to the core of a cylinder lock to operate the bolt mechanism.

CONSTRUCTION MASTER KEYING—A keying system used to allow the use of a single key for all locks during the construction of large housing projects. In one such system, the cylinder cores of all locks contain an insert that permits the use of a special master key. When the dwelling unit is completed, the insert is removed and the lock then accepts its own change key and no longer accepts the construction master key.

CONTINUOUS HINGE—A hinge designed to be the same length as the edge of the moving part to which it is applied. Also called a piano hinge.

COORDINATOR—A mechanism which controls the order of closing of a pair of swing doors, used with overlapping astragals and certain panic hardware which require that one door close ahead of the other.

CORE—See CYLINDER CORE.
CRASH BAR—The cross bar or level of a panic exit device which serves as a push bar to actuate the lock. See also PANIC HARDWARE.

CREMONE BOLT—A surface-mounted device that locks a door or sash into the frame at both the top and bottom when a knob or lever is turned.

CRESSENT SASH LOCK—A simple cam-shaped latch, not requiring a key for its operation, usually used to secure double-hung windows. Also called a cam lock.

CUT—An indentation made in a key to make it fit a pin tumbler of a lock. Any notch made in a key is known as a cut, whether it is square, round or V-shaped. Also called bitting.

CYLINDER—The cylindrical subassembly of a lock, including the cylinder housing, the cylinder core, the tumbler mechanism and the keyway.

CYLINDER COLLAR—See CYLINDER GUARD RING.

CYLINDER CORE (or PLUG)—The central part of a cylinder, containing the keyway, which is rotated to operate the lock bolt.

CYLINDER GUARD RING—A hardened metal ring, surrounding the exposed portion of a lock cylinder, which protects the cylinder from being wrenched, turned, pried, cut, or pulled with attack tools.

CYLINDER HOUSING—The external case of a lock cylinder. Also called the cylinder shell.

CYLINDER LOCK—A lock in which the locking mechanism is controlled by a cylinder. A double cylinder lock has a cylinder on both the interior and exterior of the door.

CYLINDER, MORTISE TYPE—A lock cylinder that has a threaded housing which screws directly into the lock case, with a cam or other mechanism engaging the locking mechanism.

CYLINDER, REMOVABLE CORE—A cylinder whose core may be removed by the use of a special key.

CYLINDER, RIM TYPE—A lock cylinder that is held in place by tension against its rim, applied by screws from the interior face of the door.

CYLINDER RING—See CYLINDER GUARD RING.

CYLINDER SCREW—A set screw that holds a mortise cylinder in place and prevents it from being turned after installation.

CYLINDRICAL LOCK (or LATCH)—See BORED LOCK.

DEAD BOLT—A lock bolt which does not have an automatic spring action and a bevelled end as opposed to a latch bolt, which does. The bolt must be actuated to a projected position by a key or thumb turn and when projected is locked against return by end pressure.

DEAD LATCH—A spring-actuated latch bolt having a bevelled end and incorporating a feature that automatically locks the projected latch bolt against return by end pressure.

DEAD LOCK—A lock equipped with a dead bolt.

DEAD LOCKING LATCH BOLT—See DEAD LATCH.

DISC TUMBLER—A spring loaded, flat plate that slides in a slot which runs through the diameter of the cylinder. Inserting the proper key lines up the disc tumblers with the lock’s shear line and enables the core to be turned.

DOGging DEVICE—A mechanism which fastens the cross bar of a panic exit device in the fully depressed position, and retains the latch bolt or bolts in the retracted position to permit free operation of the door from either side.

DOGging KEY—A key-type wrench used to lock down, in the open position, the cross bar of a panic exit device.

DOOR ASSEMBLY—A unit composed of parts or components which make up a closure for a passageway through a wall. It consists of the door, hinges, locking device or devices, operational contacts (such as handles, knobs, push plates), miscellaneous hardware and closures, the frame including the head and jambs, the anchorage devices to the surrounding wall, and the surrounding wall.

DOOR BOLT—A rod or bar manually operated without a key, attached to a door to provide a means of securing it.

DOOR CHECK/CLOSER—A device used to control the closing of a door by means of a spring and either hydraulic or air pressure, or by electrical means.

DOOR CLEARANCE—The space between a door and either its frame or the finished floor or threshold, or between the two doors of a double door. See also CLEARANCE.

DOOR FRAME—An assembly of members surrounding and supporting a door or doors, and perhaps also one or more transom lights and/or sidelights. See also INTEGRAL FRAME.

DOOR JAMBS—The two vertical components of a door frame called the hinge jamb and the lock jamb.

DOOR LIGHT—See LIGHT.

DOOR OPENING—The size of a doorway, measured from jamb to jamb and from floor line or sill to head of frame. The opening size is usually the
nominal door size, and is equal to the actual door size plus clearances and threshold height.

DOOR STOP—The projections along the top and sides of a door frame against which a one-way swinging door closes. See also RABBETED JAMB.

DOUBLE CYLINDER LOCK—See CYLINDER LOCK.

DOUBLE DOOR—A pair of doors mounted together in a single opening. See also ACTIVE DOOR and INACTIVE DOOR.

DOUBLE-ACTING DOOR—A swinging door equipped with hardware which permits it to open in either direction.

DOUBLE-BITTED KEY—A key having cuts on two sides.

DOUBLE EGRESS FRAME—A door frame prepared to receive two single-acting doors swinging in opposite directions, both doors being of the same hand.

DOUBLE GLAZING—Two thicknesses of glass, separated by an air space and framed in an opening, designed to reduce heat transfer or sound transmission. In factory-made double glazing units, referred to as insulating glass, the air space between the glass sheets is desiccated and sealed airtight.

DOUBLE-HUNG WINDOW—A type of window, composed of upper and lower sashes which slide vertically.

DOUBLE-THROW BOLT—A bolt that can be projected beyond its first position, into a second, or fully extended one.

DOUBLE-THROW LOCK—A lock incorporating a double-throw bolt.

DRIVER PIN—One of the pin tumblers in a pin tumbler cylinder lock, usually flat on both ends, which are in line with and push against the flat ends of the bottom pins. They are projected by individual coil springs into the cylinder core until they are forced from the core by the bottom pins when the proper key is inserted into the keyway.

DROP RING—A ring handle attached to the spindle which operates a lock or latch. The ring is pivoted to remain in a dropped position when not in use.

DRY GLAZING—A method of securing glass in a frame by use of a preformed resilient gasket.

DRYWALL FRAME—A knocked-down (KD) door frame for installation in a wall constructed with studs and gypsum board or other drywall facing material after the wall is erected.

DUMMY CYLINDER—A mock cylinder without an operating mechanism, used for appearance only.

DUMMY TRIM—Trim only, without lock; usually used on the inactive door in a double door.

DUTCH DOOR—A door consisting of two separate leaves, one above the other, which may be operated either independently or together. The lower leaf usually has a service shelf.

DUTCH DOOR BOLT—A device for locking together the upper and lower leaves of a Dutch door.

DWELLING UNIT ENTRY DOOR—Any door giving access to a private dwelling unit.

ELECTRIC STRIKE—An electrically operated device that replaces a conventional strike plate and allows a door to be opened by using electric switches at remote locations.

ESCUetteON PLATE—A surface-mounted cover plate, either protective or ornamental, containing openings for any or all of the controlling members of a lock such as the knob, handle, cylinder or keyhole.

EXIT DEVICE—See PANIC HARDWARE.

EXITWAY—A continuous and unobstructed means of egress from a building to the outdoors, usually providing a safe exit route for persons inside the building in the event of a fire or other emergency.

EXITWAY DOOR—Any door providing egress from an exitway system to the outdoors, either directly or via a corridor, hall, or room which also forms a part of the exitway: the door of an exitway nearest the outdoors.

EXPANDED METAL—An open mesh formed by slitting and drawing metal sheet: it is made in various patterns and metal thicknesses, with either a flat or an irregular surface.

EXTERIOR PRIVATE AREA—The ground area outside a single family house, or a ground floor apartment in the case of a multiple dwelling, which is fenced off by a real barrier, which is available for the use of one family and is accessible only from the interior of that family’s unit.

EXTERIOR SEMI-PRIVATE AREA—The ground area outside a multiple dwelling which is fenced off by a real barrier, and is accessible only from the private or semi-private zones within the building.

EXTERIOR SEMI-PUBLIC AREA—The ground area outside a single family house or multiple dwelling, which is accessible from public zones, but is defined as belonging to the house or building by symbolic barriers only.

EXTERIOR PUBLIC AREA—The ground area outside a multiple dwelling which is not defined as
being associated with the building or building entry in any real or symbolic fashion.

FACE (of a lock)—See FACE PLATE.

FACE GLAZING—A method of glazing in which the glass is set in an L-shaped or rabbeted frame, the glazing compound is finished off in the form of a triangular bead, and no loose stops are employed.

FACE PLATE—The part of a mortise lock through which the bolt protrudes and by which the lock is fastened to the door.

FAST PIN HINGE—A hinge in which the pin is fastened permanently in place.

FATIGUE—Structural failure of a material caused by repeated or fluctuating application of stresses, none of which is individually sufficient to cause failure.

FENCE—A metal pin that extends from the bolt of a lever lock and prevents retraction of the bolt unless it is aligned with the gates of the lever tumblers.

FIDELITY LOSS—A property loss resulting from a theft in which the thief leaves no evidence of entry.

FILLER PLATE—A metal plate used to fill unwanted mortise cutouts in a door or frame.

FINISH BUILDERS’ HARDWARE—Hardware that has a finished appearance as well as a functional purpose and which may be considered as part of the decorative treatment of a room or building. Also called finish hardware and builders’ finish hardware.

FIRE STAIR—Any enclosed stairway which is part of a fire-resistant exitway.

FIRE STAIR DOOR—A door forming part of the fire-resistant stair enclosure, and providing access from common corridors to fire stair landings within an exitway.

FLOOR ANCHOR—A metal device attached to the wall side of a jamb at its base to secure the frame to the floor.

FLOOR CLEARANCE—The width of the space between the bottom of a door and the rough or finished floor or threshold.

FLUSH BOLT—A door bolt so designed that, when installed, the operating handle is flush with the face or edge of the door. Usually installed at the top and bottom of the inactive door of a double door.

FLUSH DOOR—A smooth-surfaced door having faces which are plane and which conceal its rails and stiles or other structure.

FOOT BOLT—A type of bolt applied at the bottom of a door and arranged for foot operation.

Generally the bolt head is held up by a spring when the door is unbolted.

FORCED ENTRY—An unauthorized entry accomplished by the use of force upon the physical components of the premises.

FRAME—The component that forms the opening of and provides support for a door, window, skylight, or hatchway. See also DOOR FRAME.

FRAME GASKET—Resilient material in strip form attached to frame stops to provide tight closure of a door or window.

FRONT (of a lock)—See FACE PLATE.

GATE—A notch in the end of a lever tumbler, which when aligned with the fence of the lock bolt allows the bolt to be withdrawn from the strike.

GENERAL CIRCULATION STAIR—An interior stairway in a non-elevator building which provides access to upper floors.

GLASS DOOR—A door made from thick glass, usually heat tempered, and having no structural metal stiles.

GLASS STOP—See GLAZING BEAD.

GLAZING—Any transparent or translucent material used in windows or doors to admit light.

GLAZING BEAD—A strip of trim or a sealant such as caulkling or glazing compound, which is placed around the perimeter of a pane of glass or other glazing to secure it to a frame.

GLAZING COMPOUND—A soft, dough-like material used for filling and sealing the spaces between a pane of glass and its surrounding frame and/or stops.

GRAND MASTER KEY—A key designed to operate all locks under several master keys in a system.

GRATING, BAR TYPE—An open grip assembly of metal bars in which the bearing bars, running in one direction, are spaced by rigid attachment to cross bars running perpendicular to them or by bent connecting bars extending between them.

GROUT—Mortar of such consistency that it will just flow into the joints and cavities of masonry work and fill them solid.

GROUTED FRAME—A frame in which all voids between it and the surrounding wall are completely filled with the cement or plaster used in the wall construction.

GUARD BAR—A series of two or more cross bars, generally fastened to a common back plate, to protect the glass or screen in a door.

GUARD PLATE—A piece of metal attached to a door frame, door edge, or over the lock cylinder for
the purpose of reinforcing the locking system against burglary attacks.

HAND (of a door)—The opening direction of the door. A right-handed door (RH) is hinged on the right and swings inward when viewed from the outside. A left-handed door (LH) is hinged on the left and swings inward when viewed from the outside. If either of these doors swings outward, it is referred to as a right-hand reverse door (RHR) or a left-hand reverse (LHR) door, respectively.

HANDLE—Any grip-type door pull. See also LEVER HANDLE.

HASP—A fastening device which consists of a hinged plate with a slot in it that fits over a fixed D-shaped ring, or eye.

HATCHWAY—An opening in a ceiling, roof or floor of a building which is large enough to allow human access.

HEAD—Top horizontal member of a door or window frame.

HEAD STIFFENER—A heavy-gauge metal angle or channel section placed inside, and attached to, the head of a wide door frame to maintain its alignment: not a load-carrying member.

HEEL OF A PADLOCK—That end of the shackle on a padlock which is not removable from the case.

HINGE—A device generally consisting of two metal plates having loops formed along one edge of each to engage and rotate about a common pivot rod or “pin,” used to suspend a swinging door or window in its frame.

HINGE BACKSET—The distance from the edge of a hinge to the stop at the side of a door or window.

HINGE EDGE OR HINGE STILE—The vertical edge or stile of a door or window to which hinges or pivots are attached.

HINGE REINFORCEMENT—A metal plate attached to a door or frame to receive a hinge.

HOLD-BACK FEATURE—A mechanism on a latch which serves to hold the latch bolt in the retracted position.

HOLLOW CORE DOOR—A door constructed so that the space (core) between the two facing sheets is not completely filled. Various spacing and reinforcing materials are used to separate the facing sheets; some interior hollow core doors have nothing except perimeter stiles and rails separating the facing sheets.

HOLLOW METAL—Hollow items such as doors, frames, partitions, and enclosures which are usually fabricated from cold formed metal sheet, usually carbon steel.

HORIZONTAL SLIDING WINDOW—A type of window, composed of two sections, one or both of which slide horizontally past the other.

IMPRESSION SYSTEM—A technique to produce keys for certain types of locks without taking the lock apart.

INACTIVE DOOR (or LEAF)—The leaf of a double door that is bolted when closed: the strike plate is attached to this leaf to receive the latch and bolt of the active leaf.

INTEGRAL LOCK (or LATCH)—See PRESSED LOCK.

INTEGRAL FRAME—A metal door frame in which the jambs and head have stops, trim and backbends all formed from one piece of material.

INTERIOR COMMON-CIRCULATION AREA—An area within a multiple dwelling which is outside the private zones of individual units and is used in common by all residents and the maintenance staff of the building.

INTERIOR PRIVATE AREA—The interior of a single family house: the interior of an apartment in a multiple dwelling; or the interior of a separate unit within a commercial, public, or institutional building.

INTERIOR PUBLIC AREA—An interior common-circulation area or common resident-use room within a multiple dwelling to which access is unrestricted.

INTERIOR SEMI-PUBLIC AREA—An interior common-circulation area or common resident-use room within a multiple dwelling to which access is possible only with a key or on the approval of a resident via an intercom, buzzer-reply system.

INVISIBLE HINGE—A hinge so constructed that no parts are exposed when the door is closed.

JALOUSIE WINDOW—See LOUVERED WINDOW.

JAMB—The exposed vertical member of either side of a door or window opening. See also DOOR JAMBS.

JAMB ANCHOR—A metal device inserted in or attached to the wall side of a jamb to secure the frame to the wall. A masonry jamb anchor secures a jamb to a masonry wall.

JAMB DEPTH—The width of the jamb, measured perpendicular to the door or wall face at the edge of the opening.

JAMB EXTENSION—The section of a jamb which extends below the level of the finish floor for attachment to the rough floor.
JAMB PEELING—A technique used in forced entry to deform or remove portions of the jamb to disengage the bolt from the strike. See JIMMYING.

JAMB/STRIKE—That component of a door assembly which receives and holds the extended lock bolt. The strike and jamb are considered a unit.

JAMB/WALL—That component of a door assembly to which a door is attached and secured by means of the hinges. The wall and jamb are considered a unit.

JIMMYING—A technique used in forced entry to pry the jamb away from the lock edge of the door a sufficient distance to disengage the bolt from the strike.

JIMMY-PIN—A sturdy projecting screw, which is installed in the hinge edge of a door near a hinge, fits into a hole in the door jamb and prevents removal of the door if the hinge pins are removed.

KEEPER—See STRIKE.

KEY—An implement used to actuate a lock bolt or latch into the locked or unlocked position.

KEY CHANGES—The different combinations that are available or that can be used in a specific cylinder.

KEYED-ALIKE CYLINDERS—Cylinders which are designed to be operated by the same key. (Not to be confused with master-keyed cylinders).

KEYED-DIFFERENT CYLINDERS—Cylinders requiring different keys for their operation.

KEYHOLE—The opening in a lock designed to receive the key.

KEY-IN-KNOB LOCK—A lock having the key cylinder and the other lock mechanism, such as a push or turn button, contained in the knobs.

KEY PLATE—A plate or escutcheon having only a keyhole.

KEYWAY—The longitudinal cut in the cylinder core, being an opening or space with millings in the sides identical to those on the proper key, thus allowing the key to enter the full distance of the blade. See also WARDED LOCK.

KNIFING—See LOADING.

KNOB—An ornamental or functional round handle on a door; may be designed to actuate a lock or latch.

KNOB LATCH—A securing device having a spring bolt operated by a knob only.

KNOB SHANK—The projecting stem of a knob into which the spindle is fastened.

KNOCKED DOWN (Abbr. KD)—Disassembled; designed for assembly at the point of use.

KNUCKLE—The enlarged part of a hinge into which the pin is inserted.

LAMINATE—A product made by bonding together two or more layers of material.

LAMINATED GLASS—A type of glass fabricated from two layers of glass with a transparent bonding layer between them. Also called safety glass.

LAMINATED PADLOCK—A padlock, the body of which consists of a number of flat plates, all or most of which are of the same contour, superimposed and riveted or brazed together. Holes in the plates provide spaces for the lock mechanism and the ends of the shackle.

LATCH (or LATCH BOLT)—A bevelled, spring-actuated bolt which may or may not include a deadlocking feature.

LEADING EDGE—See LOCK EDGE.

LEAF, DOOR—An individual door, used either singly or in multiples.

LEAF HINGE—The most common type of hinge, characterized by two flat metal plates or leaves, which pivot about a metal hinge pin. A leaf hinge can be surface mounted, or installed in a mortise. See also BUTT HINGE and SURFACE HINGE.

LEVER HANDLE—A bar-like grip which is rotated in a vertical plane about a horizontal axis at one of its ends, designed to operate a latch.

LEVER LOCK—A key operated lock that incorporates one or more lever tumblers, which must be raised to a specific level so that the fence of the bolt is aligned with the gate of the tumbler in order to withdraw the bolt. Lever locks are commonly used in storage lockers, and safety deposit boxes.

LEVER TUMBLER—A flat metal arm, pivoted on one end with a gate in the opposite end. The top edge is spring loaded. The bitting of the key rotates against the bottom edge, raising the lever tumbler to align the gate with the bolt fence. Both the position of the gate and the curvature of the bottom edge of the lever tumbler can be varied to establish the key code.

LIGHT—A space in a window or door for a single pane of glazing. Also, a pane of glass or other glazing material.

LINTEL—A horizontal structural member that supports the load over an opening such as a door or window.

LIP (of a strike)—The curved projecting part of a strike plate which guides the spring bolt to the latch point.

LOBBY—That portion of the interior common area of a building which is reached from an entry door and which provides access to the general
LOCK—A fastener which secures a door or window assembly against unauthorized entry. A door lock is usually key-operated and includes the keyed device (cylinder or combination), bolt, strike plate, knobs or levers, trim items, etc. A window lock is usually hand operated rather than key operated.

LOCK CLIP—A flexible metal part attached to the inside of a door face to position a mortise lock.

LOCK EDGE—The vertical edge or stile of a door in which a lock may be installed. Also called the leading edge, the lock stile and the strike edge.

LOCK EDGE DOOR (or LOCK SEAM DOOR)—A door which has its face sheets secured in place by an exposed mechanical interlock seam on each of its two vertical edges. See also LOCK SEAM.

LOCK FACEPLATE—See FACE PLATE.

LOCKING DOG (of a padlock)—The part of a padlock mechanism which engages the shackle and holds it in the locked position.

LOCK-IN-KNOB—See KEY-IN-KNOB LOCK.

LOCK PICK—A tool or instrument, other than the specifically designed key, made for the purpose of manipulating a lock into a locked or unlocked condition.

LOCK PICKING—The process of manipulating a keyed lock mechanism by means other than the specifically designed key or keys.

LOCK RAIL—The horizontal member of a door intended to receive the lock case.

LOCK REINFORCEMENT—A reinforcing plate attached inside of the lock stile of a door to receive a lock.

LOCK SEAM—A joint in sheet metal work, formed by doubly folding the edges of adjoining sheets in such a manner that they interlock.

LOCK SET—See LOCK.

LOCK STILE—See LOCK EDGE.

LOIDING—A burglary attack method in which a thin, flat, flexible object such as a stiff piece of plastic is inserted between the strike and the latch bolt to depress the latch bolt and release it from the strike. The loiding of windows is accomplished by inserting a thin stiff object between the meeting rails or stiles to move the latch to the open position, or by inserting a thin stiff wire through openings between the stile or rail and the frame to manipulate the sash operator of pivoting windows. Derived from the word “celluloid.” Also called knife and slip-knife.

LOOSE JOINT HINGE—A hinge with two knuc-
MILLWORK—Generally, all building components made of finished wood and manufactured in millwork plants and planing mills. It includes such items as inside and outside doors, window and doorframes, cabinets, porchwork, mantels, panelwork, stairways, moldings, and interior trim. It normally does not include flooring, ceiling, or siding.

MOLDING—A wood strip used for decorative purposes.

MONO LOCK—See PREASSEMBLED LOCK.

MORTISE—A rectangular cavity made to receive a lock or other hardware; also, the act of making such a cavity.

MORTISE BOLT—A bolt designed to be installed in a mortise rather than on the surface. The bolt is operated by a knob, lever or equivalent.

MORTISE CYLINDER—See CYLINDER, MORTISE TYPE.

MORTISE LOCK—A lock designed for installation in a mortise, as distinguished from a bored lock and a rim lock.

MULLION—(1) A movable or fixed center post used on double door openings, usually for locking purposes. (2) A vertical or horizontal bar or divider in a frame between windows, doors, or other openings.

MULTIPLE DWELLING—A building or portion of a building designed or used for occupancy by three or more tenants or families living independently of each other (includes hotels and motels).

MUNTIN—A small member which divides the glass or openings of sash or doors.

MUSHROOM TUMBLER—A type of tumbler used in pin tumbler locks to add security against picking. The diameter of the driver pin behind the end in contact with the bottom pin is reduced so that the mushroom head will catch the edge of the cylinder body at the shear line when it is at a slight angle to its cavity. See also SPOOL TUMBLER.

NIGHT LATCH—An auxiliary lock having a spring latch bolt and functioning independently of the regular lock of the door.

NON-REMOVABLE HINGE PIN—A type of hinge pin that has been constructed or modified to make its removal from the hinge difficult or impossible.

OFFSET PIVOT (or HINGE)—A pin-and-socket hardware device with a single bearing contact, by means of which a door is suspended in its frame and allowed to swing about an axis which normally is located about 1.9 cm (¾ in) out from the door face.

ONE-WAY SCREW—A screw specifically designed to resist being removed, once installed. See also TAMPER-RESISTANT HARDWARE.

OPENING SIZE—See DOOR OPENING.

OPERATOR (of a window sash)—The mechanism, including a crank handle and gear box, attached to an operating arm or arms for the purpose of opening and closing a window. Usually found on casement and awning type windows.

OVERHEAD DOOR—A door which is stored overhead when in the open position.

PADLOCK—A detachable and portable lock with a hinged or sliding shackle or bolt, normally used with a hasp and eye or staple system.

PANEL DOOR—A door fabricated from one or more panels surrounded by and held in position by rails and stiles.

PANIC BAR—See CRASH BAR.

PANIC HARDWARE—An exterior door locking mechanism which is always operable from inside the building by pressure on a crash bar or lever.

PATIO-TYPE SLIDING DOOR—A sliding door that is essentially a single, large transparent panel in a frame (a type commonly used to give access to patios or yards of private dwellings); “single” doors have one fixed and one movable panel; “double” doors have two movable panels.

PEELING—See JAMB PEELING.

PICKING—See LOCK PICKING.

PIN (of a hinge)—The metal rod that serves as the axis of a hinge and thereby allows the hinge (and attached door or window) to rotate between the open and closed positions.

PIN TUMBLER—One of the essential, distinguishing components of a pin tumbler lock cylinder, more precisely called a bottom pin, master pin or driver pin. The pin tumblers, used in varying lengths and arrangements, determine the combination of the cylinder. See also BOTTOM PIN, DRIVER PIN and MASTER PIN.

PIN TUMBLER LOCK CYLINDER—A lock cylinder employing metal pins (tumblers) to prevent the rotation of the core until the correct key is inserted into the keyway. Small coil compression springs hold the pins in the locked position until the key is inserted.

PIVOTED DOOR—A door hung on pivots rather than hinges.

PIVOTED WINDOW—A window which opens by pivoting about a horizontal or vertical axis.

PLUG RETAINER—The part often fixed to the rear of the core in a lock cylinder to retain or hold the core firmly in the cylinder.
PREASSEMBLED LOCK—A lock that has all the parts assembled into a unit at the factory and, when installed in a rectangular section cut out of the door at the lock edge, requires little or no assembly. Also called integral lock, mono lock and unit lock.

PRESSED PADLOCK—A padlock whose outer case is pressed into shape from sheet metal and then riveted together.

PRESSURE-LOCKED GRATING—A grating in which the cross bars are mechanically locked to the bearing bars at their intersections by deforming or swaging the metal.

PRIVACY LOCK—A lock, usually for an interior door, secured by a button, thumbturn, etc., and not designed for key operation.

PROJECTION—See BOLT PROJECTION.

PUSH KEY—A key which operates the Ace type of lock.

QUADRANT—See DUTCH DOOR BOLT.

RABBET—A cut, slot or groove made on the edge or surface of a board to receive the end or edge of another piece of wood made to fit it.

RABBETED JAMB—A door jamb in which the projecting portion of the jamb which forms the door stop is either part of the same piece as the rest of the jamb or securely set into a deep groove in the jamb.

RAIL—A horizontal framing member of a door or window sash which extends the full width between the stiles.

REMOVABLE MULLION—A mullion separating two adjacent door openings which is required for the normal operation of the doors but is designed to permit its temporary removal.

RESTRICTED KEYWAY—A special keyway and key blank for high security locks, with a configuration which is not freely available and which must be specifically requested from the manufacturer.

REVERSIBLE LOCK—A lock which may be used for either hand of a door.

RIM CYLINDER—A pin or disc tumbler cylinder used with a rim lock.

RIM HARDWARE—Hardware designed to be installed on the surface of a door or window.

RIM LATCH—A latch installed on the surface of a door.

RIM LATCH—A lock designed to be mounted on the surface of a door.

ROSE—The part of a lock which functions as an ornament or bearing surface for a knob, and is normally placed against the surface of the door.

ROTOR INTERLOCKING DEAD BOLT LOCK—A type of rim lock in which the extended dead bolt is rotated to engage with the strike.

ROUGH BUCK—A sub-frame, usually made of wood or steel, which is set in a wall opening and to which the frame is attached.

ROUGH OPENING—The wall opening into which a frame is to be installed. Usually, the rough opening is measured inside the rough buck.

SASH—A frame containing one or more lights.

SASH FAST—A fastener attached to the meeting rails of a window.

SASH LOCK—A sash fast with a locking device controlled by a key.

SCREWLESS KNOB—A knob attached to a spindle by means of a special wrench, as distinguished from the more commonly used side-screw knob.

SCREWLESS ROSE—A rose with a concealed method of attachment.

SEAMLESS DOOR—A door having no visible seams on its faces or edges.

SECONDARY LOCK—See AUXILIARY LOCK.

SECURITY GLASS OR GLAZING—See BURGLAR-RESISTANT GLAZING.

SETBACK—See BACKSET.

SHACKLE—The hinged or sliding part of a padlock that does the fastening.

SHEAR LINE—The joint between the shell and the core of a lock cylinder; the line at which the pins or discs of a lock cylinder must be aligned in order to permit rotation of the core.

SHEATHING—The structural exterior covering, usually wood boards or plywood, used over the framing studs and rafters of a structure.

SHELL—A lock cylinder, exclusive of the core. Also called housing.

SHUTTER—A movable screen or cover used to protect an opening, especially a window.

SIDE LIGHT—A fixed light located adjacent to a door within the same frame assembly.

SIGNAL SASH FASTENER—A sash-fastening device designed to lock windows which are beyond reach from the floor. It has a ring for a sash pole hook. When locked, the ring lever is down; when the ring lever is up, it signals by its upright position that the window is unlocked.

SILL—The lower horizontal member of a door or window opening.

SINGLE-ACTING DOOR—A door mounted to swing to only one side of the plane of its frame.

SKYLIGHT—A glazed opening located in the roof of a building.

SLIDE BOLT—A simple lock which is operated
directly by hand without using a key, a turnpiece, or other actuating mechanism. Slide bolts can normally only be operated from the inside.

SLIDING DOOR—Any door that slides open sideways.

SLIDING METAL GATE—An assembly of metal bars, jointed so that it can be moved to and locked in position across a window or other opening, in order to prevent unauthorized entry through the opening.

SLIP-KNIFING—See LOIDING.

SOLID CORE DOOR—A door constructed so that the space (core) between the two facing sheets is completely filled with wood blocks or other rigid material.

SPINDLE—The shaft that fits into the shank of a door knob or handle, and that serves as its axis of rotation.

SPLIT ASTRAGAL—A two-piece astragal, one piece of which is surface mounted on each door of a double door and is provided with a means of adjustment to mate with the other piece and provide a seal. See also ASTRAGAL.

SPOOL TUMBLER—A type of tumbler used in pin tumbler locks to add security against picking. Operates on the same principal as the mushroom tumbler.

SPRING BOLT—See LATCH.

SPRING BOLT WITH ANTI-LOIDING DEVICE—See DEAD LATCH.

STILE—One of the vertical edge members of a paneled door or window sash.

STOOL—A flat molding fitted over the window sill between the jambs and contacting the bottom rail of the lower sash.

STOP (of a door or window frame)—The projecting part of a door or window frame against which a swinging door or window closes, or in which a sliding door or window moves.

STOP (of a lock)—A button or other device that serves to lock and unlock a latch bolt against actuation by the outside knob or thumb piece. Another type holds the bolt retracted.

STOP SIDE—That face of a door which contacts the door stop.

STORE FRONT SASH—An assembly of light metal members forming a continuous frame for a fixed glass store front.

STORM SASH, WINDOW, OR DOOR—An extra window or door, usually placed on the outside of an existing one as additional protection against cold or hot weather.

STRAP HINGE—A surface hinge of which one or both leaves are of considerable length.

STRIKE—A metal plate attached to or mortised into a door jamb to receive and hold a projected latch bolt and/or dead bolt in order to secure the door to the jamb.

STRIKE, BOX—See BOX STRIKE.

STRIKE, DUSTPROOF—A strike which is placed in the threshold or sill of an opening, or in the floor, to receive a flush bolt, and is equipped with a spring-loaded follower to cover the recess and keep out dirt.

STRIKE, INTERLOCKING—A strike which receives and holds a vertical, rotary, or hook dead bolt.

STRIKE PLATE—See STRIKE.

STRIKE REINFORCEMENT—A metal plate attached to a door or frame to receive a strike.

STRIKE, ROLLER—A strike for latch bolts, having a roller mounted on the lip to reduce friction.

STUD—A slender wood or metal post used as a supporting element in a wall or partition.

STUD ANCHOR—A device used to secure a stud to the floor.

SUB-BUCK or SUB-FRAME—See ROUGH BUCK.

SURFACE HINGE—A hinge having both leaves attached to the surface and thus fully visible.

SWING—See HAND.

SWINGING BOLT—A bolt that is hinged to a lock front and is projected and retracted with a swinging rather than a sliding action. Also called hinged or pivot bolt.

TAIL PIECE—The unit on the core of a cylinder lock which actuates the bolt or latch.

TAMPER-RESISTANT HARDWARE—Builders’ hardware with screws or nut-and-bolt connections that are hidden or cannot be removed with conventional tools.

TEMPLATE—A precise detailed pattern used as a guide in the mortising, drilling, etc., of a door or frame to receive hardware.

TEMPLATE HARDWARE—Hardware manufactured within template tolerances.

TENSION WRENCH—An instrument used in picking a lock. It is used to apply torsion to the cylinder core.

THREE-POINT LOCK—A locking device required on “A-label” fire double doors to lock the active door at three points—the normal position plus top and bottom.
THRESHOLD—A wood or metal plate forming the bottom of a doorway.

THROW—See BOLT PROJECTION.

THUMB PIECE (of a door handle)—The small pivoted part above the grip of a door handle, which is pressed by the thumb to operate a latch bolt.

THUMB TURN—A unit which is gripped between the thumb and forefinger, and turned to project or retract a bolt.

TOLERANCE—The permissible deviation from a nominal or specified dimension or value.

TRANSOM—An opening window immediately above a door.

TRANSOM BAR—The horizontal frame member which separates the door opening from the transom.

TRANSOM CATCH—A latch bolt fastener on a transom, having a ring by which the latch bolt is retracted.

TRANSOM CHAIN—A short chain used to limit the opening of a transom; usually provided with a plate at each end for attachment.

TRANSOM LIFT—A device attached to a door frame and transom by means of which the transom may be opened or closed.

TRIM HARDWARE—See FINISH BUILDERS' HARDWARE.

TRYOUT KEYS—A set of keys which includes many commonly used bittings. They are used one at a time in an attempt to unlock a door.

TUMBLER—A movable obstruction in a lock which must be adjusted to a particular position, as by a key, before the bolt can be thrown.

TURN PIECE—See THUMB TURN.

UNIT LOCK—See PREASSEMBLED LOCK.

VERTICAL BOLT LOCK—A lock having two deadbolts which move vertically into two circular receivers in the strike portion of the lock attached to the door jamb.

VISION PANEL—A fixed transparent panel of glazing material set into an otherwise opaque wall, partition, or door; a non-opening window. See also LIGHT.

WARD—An obstruction which prevents the wrong key from entering or turning in a lock.

WARDED LOCK—A lock containing internal obstacles which block the entrance or rotation of all but the correct key.

WEATHERSTRIPPING—Narrow or jamb-width sections of flexible material which prevent the passage of air and moisture around windows and doors. Compression weatherstripping also acts as a frictional counter-balance in double-hung windows.

WET GLAZING—The sealing of glass or other transparent material in a frame by the use of a glazing compound or sealant.

WINDOW FRAME—See FRAME.

WINDOW GUARD—A strong metal grid-like assembly which can be installed on a window or other opening; types of window guards include metal bars, metal-mesh grilles, and sliding metal gates.

WIRE GLASS—Glass manufactured with a layer of wire mesh approximately in the center of the sheet.
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