

How do I know if a door is a fire door when it is not marked?

If a door fitted internally is 44mm thick or more it is likely to be a fire resisting door.

Up until April 2007 fire resisting doors fitted within apartments and three storey dwellings had to be fitted with a self-closing device, so if the door closes by itself then it is likely to be a fire door.

If there is intumescent strip fitted to either the door or the frame, the door is a fire door.



These photographs show examples of intumescent strips. They can have brush seals, but not always. They can be all different colours, and can be painted over. You might only be able to see the outline of a strip in the frame or door edge.

30 minute fire resisting doors tend to be 44mm thick and fitted with 10mm or 15mm wide intumescent strips.

60 minute fire resisting doors tend to be 54mm thick and fitted with 20mm wide intumescent strips. If you suspect it is a fire door then treat it as one.

Which type of hinge do I need to use?

Hinges are only suitable for use on fire resisting or fire escape doors if the hinge is CE marked and the fourth digit of the 8 digit classification code is '1'.

Check the weight of the door leaf and choose a hinge suitable to carry a door of that weight. If in doubt choose a bigger hinge than you think to be sure it will be strong enough.

For ease of removing a door leaf from the frame choose a loose pin hinge.

Never use a loose pin hinge on a door opening outwards externally.

Most hinges need to be morticed into the door edge and frame, if you do not or cannot mortice the hinges, then choose a flush or hurl hinge.



Morticed Hinge =



Flush Hinge =

If 3-way adjustability is required without additional joinery work, then choose the patented Quicksemble hinge.

If you do require the door to be self-closing and do not want to fit a separate doorcloser, then choose a Spring Hinge.

Which Colour or Finish should I choose?

First point to consider is where the hinges are to be fitted. Some finishes are not suitable for external doors as the finish is not rust-proof.

Secondly consider your design scheme as to what colour or finish would suit.

The table below should help:

BZP = Bright Zinc Plated	dull silver coloured	suitable for internal and external use
EB = Electro Brass Plated	brass coloured	suitable for internal use only
SCP = Satin Chrome Plated	dull silver coloured	suitable for internal use only
CP = Polished Chrome Plated	shiny silver coloured	suitable for internal use only
WHT= White Powder Coated	white coloured	suitable for internal and external use
PSS = Polished Stainless Steel	shiny silver coloured	suitable for internal and external use
SSS = Polished Stainless Steel	dull silver coloured	suitable for internal and external use

How many hinges will I need?

We always recommend 1.5pair hinges per standard size door leaf. For door leaves of exceptional width or height, please contact our office for advice.

Where should I fit the hinges?

For standard height door leaves, in domestic, residential situations we recommend one hinge should be fitted centrally, the other two hinges to be fitted 770mm from the centre of the middle hinge. (BS4787:Pt1 1980)

How do I fit the hinges?

Some hinges such as Quicksemble Hinges and Spring Hinges have additional particular points to note for installation. See separate downloads.

Flush hinges and hurl hinges are fitted without any preparation to the door and frame.

For fitting hinges into timber doors and frames we recommend drilling pilot holes before driving in the woodscrews to prevent the timber from splitting.

For standard hinges mortice both the door leaf edge and frame jamb to a depth equal to the thickness of the hinge blade.

Standard woodscrews are supplied with all hinges however you must ensure the correct fixing screws are used appropriate to the door leaf material and frame material. Ensure the screw heads are countersunk to sit flush in the countersunk holes of the hinge blade.

Where hinges have an odd numbered quantity of knuckles, fit the leaf with the highest number of knuckles to the frame.

At installation we recommend the hinge bearing points are lubricated using a silicone or non-silicone based lubricant, eg. 'WD-40' or 'Tri-Flo'.

When fixing loose pin hinges ensure the pin head is to the top of the hinge when fitted, pull out and reverse if necessary.

Ensure the screws have been driven home and are secure.

Should I maintain the hinges?

We recommend that the hinges are checked annually to ensure the screws remain fixed securely.

At these annual checks we recommend the hinge bearing points are lubricated using a silicone or non-silicone based lubricant, eg. 'WD-40' or 'Tri-Flo'.

The hinge surfaces and knuckle should be cleaned using household soap and water with a soft cloth.

Over time the pin of loose-pin hinges will ride up, if this occurs gently tap the pin head back down.

For any other queries or for further advice please contact our Sales Office on 01924-438112.