



TECHNICAL MEMORANDUM 011 (Edition 1) BASIC FIRE DOOR REQUIREMENTS

1.0 Introduction

This document has been produced to help clarify what you will be required to submit to our Building Control offices if you are required to justify your proposals relating to timber fire doorset installations.

1.1 This guidance does not cover all aspects relating to the requirements applicable to timber fire doorsets fitted into buildings.

You should always consult relevant Approved Documents (Part B) Fire Safety for further details (refer : <https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/approved-documents>)

- Modern fire doorsets contribute significantly to the general passive fire safety packages used on most buildings.
- A fire doorset set comprises of door leafs (*consisting of just one or more leafs*), door frame, hinges, locks, and seals. In some cases they can be specifically manufactured to include letter plate slots, glazing apertures, and peep holes.
- To determine the FD rating of fire doors, the manufacturers have their fire doors assessed by subjecting them to a test procedure as specified in BS 476-22:1987 or BS EN 1634-1:2014.
- Fire doorsets are designed by manufacturers and then tested by third party accredited certifiers to a procedure as specified in BS 476-22:1987 or BS EN 1634-1:2014, to assure that specific performance criteria (*relating to integrity and stability*) is met, when correctly installed. i.e. the doorset will resist fire for 30 or more minutes before the doorset fails.
- Fire doors maybe required to be fitted with appropriate spring type door closers (overhead type or concealed type)
- You must fit all necessary ironmongery to your fire doorsets. In most installations for instance unless otherwise specified by the manufacturer you must fit a pair and a half hinges, made entirely from materials that have a minimum melting point of 800°C.
- Fire doors should be hung to give an equal gap across the head, down both jambs

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Edition 2 – Jan 2013

and at meeting edges. Typical gaps to achieve good fire performance is between 2 mm and 4 mm.

- Sliding “Pocket doorsets” which are required to be fire resisting must be justified by the submission of the original manufacturers fire test certificates which covers the complete assembly (i.e. door leaves, frame, seals, runners etc)

2.0 Test Certification submissions

2.1 Any test evidence submitted to our office will be used to verify the fire resistance rating of a doorset or shutter to ensure both of the following – that :

- a. It adequately demonstrates compliance in accordance with the door test certificates.
- b. It is applicable to the **complete installed assembly**.

3.0 Modification, alteration or supplementation of fire doorsets

3.1 Where fire doorsets are modified or parts supplemented by non-standard parts, or otherwise compromised, we are unlikely to accept those modifications unless justified by the manufacturers (i.e. by “Letter of Authority”) to be acceptable. You can also prove that the work was carried out acceptably by obtaining written confirmation evidence from a competent tradesmen who is preferably a member of a recognised quality assurance scheme, such as the ‘Q-Mark’ Fire Door Installers scheme.