

# **A Guide to Fire Doors**

Flat fire doors are the entrance doors that you use to get in and out of your home from a shared area, usually a corridor. There are other fire doors located within the communal areas to separate different parts of the building, for example doors within the length of a corridor and doors to cupboards that house gas meters or other services.



Flat fire doors ensure that, should a fire break out within your home, the fire and smoke is kept within the flat for **at least 30 minutes** so that you can evacuate to a safe place outside the building. The evacuation plan is fitted to the wall on each floor of the building.

All fire doors should be of solid construction, free from damage and should be able to close easily into their frame.



### Fire doors should have the following:

- Door handles and hinges fitted to the door. They are designed to withstand the effects of fire for a minimum of 30 minutes.
- Intumescent strips and smoke seals
  that may be on the door or its frame.
  They will expand and seal to prevent
  smoke and fire from passing through
  the door.
- A self-closing device that is fitted to your door. This helps the door to close without the need for you to pull it shut.
- A thumb turn lock that allows for easy unlocking without the use of a key from inside your flat. This will help you leave quickly if there is a fire.





Why is it important to have fire doors?

If fire doors are used correctly and kept in good condition they will prevent smoke, heat, and fire from spreading throughout the building.



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What can you do to make sure your fire door is in good working order?

- ✓ Check your door fully closes into its frame and is not obstructed.
- Check the self-closing device is not leaking oil and is able to close the door into its frame behind you.
- Check the door frame for damage or excessive wear and tear and make sure it is not warped.
- Check the fire door for visible damage.
- Check that the smoke seals and intumescent strips are not missing or damaged or heavily painted over.
- ✓ Keep fire doors closed when not in use.
- Report any faults to fire doors to us immediately (see the contact details we have provided below or on our website)

#### You mustn't:

- X Disconnect or adjust the selfclosing device.
- ★ Drill any holes into your flat door or frame, for example to fit chains or spyholes.
- x Prop open any fire door.
- Change door handles or remove any strips and seals.
- ★ Alter your door in any way which will reduce its fire resistance.

Communal fire doors are checked weekly and have an annual inspection.





Keeping communal areas clear

You will use the **hallways** and other **communal areas** to escape the building if there is a fire. The **Fire Service will use the same routes** in fighting the fire and helping people escape from the building.



Keeping routes clear will help to save lives by allowing quick access to, and escape from, the building.

Do not leave items in the corridors or hallways outside of your home that could obstruct your escape. Speak to your Housing Officer or Support Co-ordinator if you have large items you are struggling to store in your home; they may be able to help with finding alternative storage.

#### Contact us

Contact our Repairs Team to **report a fault** or **worries about your flat fire door** or any other **communal fire door** in your block:

- by telephone on 0113 386 1000
- by emailing us at repairs@leedsfed.com
- through My Account (scan the QR code)







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