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Anti-thrust bolt

This is a special type of spring bolt. It cannot be pushed back once it has come out and fastened the door. This specific action has defined its name. It is used in various types of locks. In most cases, this kind of bolt comes together with a night latch.

2

Auxiliary lock

This is an additional lock. It is installed on a door which already has one lock. An auxiliary lock is typically installed for achieving a higher level of security. It is usually used when the original lock cannot be replaced with one which is more advanced and secure.

3

Composite safe

This is a type of safe which is more resistant to forced entry compared to its standard counterparts. It has other enhanced qualities as well. It is usually resistant to fire. There is no unified standard for composite safes. There are variations between the models of different manufacturers.

4

Cut key

This is a newly created key. It is cut into the required shape by the locksmith professional. A cut key should not be confused with a duplicate key. In this case, no existing key is used as model for the creation of the new one.

5

Fail safe

This is a special feature which is integrated into advanced security systems. In case of an emergency, a special locking mechanism is released. This mechanism acts to prevent the use of the lock for opening the door even when the original key is inserted and turned inside.

6

Gang lock

This is a term used to describe a lock which uses multiple bolts. There are typically between two and four bolts, but their number can be higher as well. All bolts are operated together when the key is turned inside the plug. These locks are considered to be harder to open manually.

7

High-security lock

This is a type of lock which is designed to be completely resistant to bumping. It is highly resistant to picking as well. It can be picked only with the use of very specific locksmith tools. There are high-security locks which are designed for commercial and residential use.

8

Keyway

This is the part of the cylinder of a lock where the key is inserted. Each lock manufacturer uses a set of unique keyways. The model of each keyway is identified by a set of letters and numbers. This set is found on the key. It is embossed in small print.

9

Lock drilling

This technique requires the use of a special drill bit for drilling out a lock. It involves drilling on the shear line to the depth which is reached by the key. After the drilling is completed, a screw driver is used for turning the plug.

10

Lock picking

This technique involves the manipulation of the pins which sit inside the cylinder of a lock. The goal is to have all pins aligned on the shear line. In this way, the cylinder plug can be turned and the door can be opened. The main tools used for picking are tension tool and pick.

11

Master key system

This is a type of system in which a single master key can open all locks that belong to that system. At the same time, each lock has an individual key which can open only it and no other lock in the system. Such systems are typical for office buildings and apartment buildings.

12

Night latch

This is a rim latch which comes with specially beveled spring bolt which shoots with the closing of the door. It can be reversed to its original position with the use of a key from the outside. It is returned with the use of a knob or a level from the inside.

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Pins

These are the tumblers which sit in the cylinder housing of a lock mechanism. They are set in pairs. Typically, the term "pins" is used to denote only the lower pair of pins. The upper pins are referred to as drivers by locksmith professionals.

14

Shear line

This is the line of division between the keyway and the outer part which surrounds it. It is the height to which the top parts of the lower pins must go up so that the lock can be opened. It is an essential factor for the operating of each lock.

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Shoulder

This is the edge of the key which goes onto the face of the lock. It indicates how far the key goes into the lock. This is a strictly professional locksmith term. The shoulder can be referred to as bow stop as well.

Locksmith Aurora

Phone: 630-425-6713

<http://www.24locksmithaurora.com/>