

Some things don't work on their own



What's the difference?

Fire doorset

The British Standard BS EN 12519 provides the following definition: 'complete unit consisting of a door frame and a door leaf or leaves, supplied with all essential parts from a single source'.

This means that a door leaf is factory pre-hung in its frame, with hinges, glazing system (glass, seal, bead & fixing), fire and (when required) smoke seals, and ironmongery. It is supplied as a complete unit.

A fire doorset is a fully finished, engineered unit from a single manufacturer, with all components matched and pre-assembled in the factory and is covered by a single fire certificate. When the whole doorset is supplied in individual component parts for assembly on site, this is often referred to as a door kit.

Fire door assemblies

The British Standard BS EN 12519 provides the following definition: a 'complete assembly as installed, including door frame and one or more leaves, together with its essential hardware supplied from separate sources'.

This means that it is a fire door installation made up from loose, correct, compatible components – consisting of a door leaf, frame, architraves, glazing system (glass, seal, bead & fixing), decorative finishes, seals, intumescents, ironmongery and door furniture, sourced from different suppliers and manufacturers, made up on site into the final door assembly. It is the ONLY acceptable alternative to a fire doorset.

Is one better than the other?

No. BWF-CERTIFIRE Fire Door and Doorset Scheme fire doorsets and fire door assemblies will have compatible components that meet the Building Regulations and will work in the event of a fire.

So the decision depends on the user's needs, budget and convenience.

DOORSETS & DOOR ASSEMBLIES

Including:

- What's the difference?
- Is one better than the other?
- Points to consider
- Manufacturer's instructions

Points to Consider

Fire doorset

Compatible components

Fire doorsets are pre-assembled and therefore the manufacturer includes all the correct components. This guarantees that the entire doorset, including the individual components, will match the tested design.

It also means that there is less room for error because the compatible components are in place, so you avoid the problem of having to source correct components individually.

Installation

Fire doorsets tend to be treated more carefully on site, as the initial cost of a doorset is more expensive than individual components. Doorsets are also easier to install, as it is only a matter of fitting the assembly to the aperture, following the manufacturer's simple installation instructions.

Suitability

Doorsets are ideal for new buildings, as it is just a matter of purchasing the required number of doorsets. Bespoke doorsets are also suitable for refurbishment projects where the existing frame is not required.

Fire door assemblies

Compatible components

The components of door assemblies are sourced from different manufacturers, where you can select from a range of products. If any individual component gets damaged, it can be replaced from another supplier.

The correct components for door assemblies are listed in the manufacturer's instructions (they are also available on the individual company websites), and can be sourced from any BWF Approved Fire Door Centre or from companies listed in the BWF-CERTIFIRE Fire Door and Doorset Scheme directory.

Further information on compatible components can be obtained by visiting the BWF-CERTIFIRE website www.bwfcertifire.org.uk

Installation

Any door leaves that are purchased in this way must be fitted in accordance with the test evidence provided by the manufacturer. For example, a door leaf tested only in a single leaf, single acting configuration should NOT be installed as a double leaf door. Door assemblies can be installed sequentially during the different stages of the building process, enabling components to be stored and protected.

Any doors requiring apertures such as vision panels or air transfer grilles should be prepared and supplied by a company that is authorised to undertake this work. The BWF-CERTIFIRE Fire Door and Doorset Scheme has members who are certificated to undertake this task. Apertures should NEVER be cut or glazed on site.

The manufacturer's installation instructions will provide you with full guidance and information to ensure correct sourcing and fitting of compatible components to achieve the right performance level for the fire door assembly.

Purchasing

Independent research by Gleeds found the installed cost of fire doorsets to be less than that of traditional fire door assemblies, taking account of purchase costs, site installation and contract handover.

Using door assemblies can be cost effective, in that, each individual component can be sourced separately at different times, enabling you to stagger the purchasing cost, so long as the components comply with the manufacturer's installation instructions and are compatible to the test evidence of the door leaf.



Manufacturer's Instructions

It is imperative that you refer to the manufacturer's installation instructions supplied by every BWF-CERTIFIRE Fire Door & Doorset Scheme member, to ensure that you are either sourcing and installing the correct and compatible components for door assemblies or fitting the doorsets correctly and in the correct configuration.

These instructions are also available to you on the company websites. Please contact the BWF if you have difficulties in obtaining them.

Finishing:

Fire doorsets

These are normally factory finished and they can also be supplied with the option of applying the decorative coating on site.

Fire door assemblies

The decorative coat is usually applied on site, which allows you the flexibility of choosing the coating, type and colour.

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