

INFORMATION RELATING TO WINDOW / PATIO DOOR SECURITY

PVCu (BS 7412 and BS 7413)

To be confident that a window offers improved security look for a written guarantee that it is manufactured and assembled by companies with **ISO 9000 (formerly BS 5750)** and has:

- Full metal reinforcing
- Multi chamber construction
- Impact modified PVCu
- Ventilation

Considering New Windows?

If you are in the process of deciding whether to have new windows or double glazing, the following questions may help in your choice of product and company.

Quality and Performance

Question: How can I be sure the windows I buy will be a quality product?

First, look for **ISO 9000 accreditation (formerly BS 5750)**. This shows the company's quality procedures have been independently assessed. Then check that the actual window units conform to the British Standard for the material that the frame is made from. This will indicate they have passed tests for weather tightness and mechanical performance. e.g. **BS 7412 or 7413 (PVC)**; BS 644 (Timber); BS 4873 (Aluminum or BS 6510 (Steel).

Question: What makes a 'high quality' PVCu system?

Multi chamber construction, full metal reinforcement, impact modified PVC and full ventilation. Ask to see the specification against which the windows are manufactured.

Question: How can I be sure that the product will last or that the company selling me the window will still be around if something goes wrong ?

Again, look for the company's commitment to producing a quality product through their compliance with British Standards. You may also feel more confident through recommendations from people you know.

Security

Question: How easily can the beading or glass be removed?

Internal beading is generally more difficult to remove from the outside. The use of glazing clips or double sided security tape (or even both!) will also make it harder to remove the glass.

Question: How easy is it for burglars to break through the glass?

It can be quite easy, but laminated glass will stop most burglars.

If you have any doubts about the contract or the product purchased contact the Trading Standards Department of your local council.

Patio Doors



Most patio doors made recently will incorporate a multi-point locking system. On older units and those without multi-point locking, fit special patio door locks to the top and bottom of the sliding door. Also ensure that an "anti-lift" device is used. This will prevent the sliding door being levered off its runners.

If the sliding door runs to the inside of the fixed panel, wedge a sturdy wood or metal bar/pole between it and the frame to restrict movement.