

# DOOR BUYING GUIDE



0161 292 1122 | [WWW.DROYLSDENGLASS.CO.UK](http://WWW.DROYLSDENGLASS.CO.UK)

**DROYLSDEN  
GLASS**

*Windows & Conservatories*



*Established  
Over 37 years*



## **Door Buying Guide**

A new or replacement door can alter the way your home looks and performs, and the way you use your home. They allow you to better connect your home to your garden, brighten up your interior, update its current appearance, and much more. As an installer of doors for over 37 years, we're well aware that there is no one size fits all approach when it comes to buying a new door. Therefore, we've created this informative door buying guide, which should contain everything you need to know to find the right door for your home.

# WHAT DOOR MATERIALS ARE AVAILABLE?

The material(s) used to build a door has a direct effect on the way it looks and performs. Therefore, it's important to get clued up on the different materials and their respective properties.



## uPVC Doors

uPVC has a number of qualities that make it an excellent material to use in the construction of doors, such as:

- It is very easy to clean so uPVC doors require little maintenance
- uPVC is a good insulator of heat meaning doors built from it are great for making your home more energy efficient. Our uPVC French doors, for example, can achieve energy ratings of 'A'.
- uPVC is highly resistant to warping and very durable so products made from it are built to last.
- It also costs less to produce than other materials so uPVC doors tend to be a bit more budget-friendly than other door materials.
- Our uPVC French and entrance doors are also available with the esteemed Kubu smart door lock. This is an advanced locking system that is innovatively operated by a smartphone application.



## Aluminium Doors

Aluminium has been used in the construction of doors for some time, although aluminium doors have become especially popular in the last 10-15 years. Aluminium doors offer homeowners a range of excellent benefits which include:

- Because aluminium is incredibly strong, aluminium frames can be constructed to slender proportions. This makes it the ideal material for bifold and sliding patio doors because slimmer frames mean more light can find its way into the home.
- Modern aluminium doors have been fitted with polyamide thermal breaks, which dramatically improves their thermal performance.
- Aluminium is incredibly durable and will not rust, corrode or warp as time goes on. Provided it is properly cared for, high-quality aluminium can last up to 45 years.
- In addition to being highly durable, aluminium can also be cleaned with minimal effort.
- Aluminium doors are, generally, considered high-end products, meaning they're a great way to add value to your property.



## Composite Doors

A modern innovation in the door market, composite doors are built from a variety of materials to maximise performance. We provide a range of entrance doors that are built from composite materials and their features include:

- Solid timber or dense polyurethane foam cores for an incredible thermal performance. Our Rockdoor composite doors, for example, can achieve energy ratings of 'A++', some of the best you will find anywhere.
- Glass Reinforced Plastic (GRP) or uPVC skins that are highly resistant to impact damage and the weather for lasting quality. These skins are often emblazoned with a textured woodgrain finish that looks highly appealing.
- Like uPVC and aluminium doors, composite doors are also very easy to keep clean.

# WHAT TYPES OF DOOR ARE THERE?

Here at Droylsden Glass, our customers have access to a range of different doors. This ensures you can fulfil a variety of practical requirements and create a variety of looks for your home.



## Sliding Patio Doors

Known for their wide expanses of glazing and slim frames, patio doors are another excellent way to brighten up your home and enjoy uninhibited outdoor views. Unlike bifold doors, however, they are operated by sliding them to one side. For this reason, they are also a great option in any locations where floor space is hard to come by.

Here at Droylsden Glass, we install uPVC and Aluminium sliding patio doors. Our aluminium variants are manufactured by RAUM and feature a lift & slide capacity. Lift & slide patio doors are opened by rotating the handle 180 degrees. This lifts the door onto the roller track so you can open them as much or as little as you want and ventilate your home accordingly.

### Product features:

- Available with either 2, 3 or 4 panels, depending on the size of the aperture.
- Equipped with multipoint locks and internally glazed for maximum security.
- Our RAUM lift & slide Aluminium patio doors can achieve U-values of just 1.38 W/m<sup>2</sup>k.

## Bifold Doors

Bifold doors are perfect for giving your home a sophisticated look. They are operated by sliding multiple door panels to one side which causes them to fold and stack atop one another. However, they can also be fitted with a traffic door so you can transition between areas of the home without needing to operate the folding doors.

The sightlines on bifold doors are constructed to be very slim in order to maximise light entry. Therefore, they are an excellent solution for brightening up the home whilst allowing you panoramic views of your outside space.

### Product features:

- They offer U values of 1.8 W/m<sup>2</sup>k, ensuring for excellent thermal performance. U-values are used to calculate thermal performance and we will explain them in more depth later in this guide.
- Tested to Secured by Design standards and equipped with high-performance multi-point locks, each of our bifold doors offers a superior level of security for your home.
- Available in multiple configurations from 2 to 7 panels.



# WHAT TYPES OF DOOR ARE THERE?



## French doors

French doors feature a classic two door design that originated in the 16th century. Another excellent option for brightening up your home, French doors can be configured to open inwards or outwards, depending on your requirements. They also feature a wide opening capacity so you can ventilate your property extremely well.

### Product features:

- Multi-chambered profiles that allow energy ratings of 'A' to be achieved.
- Equipped with Avantis multipoint locks and twin fix cylinder guards so your home will be secured against unwanted intrusions. However, they're also available with the innovative KUBU Equipped Smart Door lock. Information on this is available later on in the guide.
- Available with either chamfered or sculptured frames to suit your preferences.

## Entrance doors

True to their name, entrance doors are used to allow you to enter and exit your home. They are suitable for either the front or back of a property. We offer a range of options built from either uPVC or composite materials. There's also a huge selection of door designs available to suit homes of any age or style.

### Product features:

- If opting for one of our Solidor composite doors, enjoy a warm, comfortable home thanks to a 48mm solid timber core and 5 chambered profile.
- Wide range of security hardware that includes Avantis multipoint locks and Ultion locking cylinders (depending on your chosen door), ensuring for an incredible security performance.
- Available in a huge range of colour and finish options to suit all style preferences.





## HOW IS THERMAL EFFICIENCY MEASURED?

There are two main units used to measure the thermal performance for doors: Door Energy Ratings and U-values.

### Door Energy Ratings

This system is employed by the British Fenestration Rating Council, who independently test products to verify their thermal performance. Products with a Door Energy Rating (DER) from them carry a 'rainbow' label. The rating system they use goes from E to A++, with E being the least efficient and A++ being the most.



### U-values

U-values measure the rate of heat transmittance through a structure using the equation  $W/m^2k$ . This measures heat loss in watts (W) per square metre of material, when the temperature (k) outside is at least one degree lower. The lower the U value, the better the insulation the material provides. If a material has a U value of 0, no heat is able to escape.

# WHAT WAYS CAN DOORS BE CUSTOMISED?

There's plenty of ways of customising doors so you can alter the way the door looks and functions to suit your requirements.



## Style

Individual types of doors come in a variety of styles, some which are better suited to traditional homes and others which suit contemporary homes. Entrance doors, in particular, come in a huge range of designs. Certain entrance door designs also have areas of glazing, whilst others utilise toplights and sidelights. These are glazed areas at the top and side of the door respectively. Any areas of glazing can feature a decorative glass design.

French doors can also be fitted with Georgian bars, which are an excellent choice for anyone who wants to make their appearance more traditional.

## Furniture

Although certain door furniture is relatively small in size, it can still have a significant impact upon the overall look of the door. Therefore, it's an important consideration.

Various furniture options for doors are available and they include:

- The door handle or handles
- Spyholes
- Letterplates
- Door knockers



## Glass

In most cases, our standard double glazing will provide more than enough sound and heat insulation for your home. However, customer demands vary widely so it's important we're able to cater to as many needs as we can. Therefore, we have an impressive selection of glass options to choose from. Popular glass options includes:

- **Self-cleaning glass** - This features a special coating that breaks down dirt as it lands on the surface of the glass.
- **Toughened glass** - true to its name, toughened glass is considerably more difficult to break than standard glass, providing an extra boost to window security.
- **Laminated glass** - this is a form of safety glass that holds together when shattered.
- **Acoustic glass** - also known as sound reduction glass, acoustic glass works by reducing the amount of outside noise that is able to enter the home.
- **Low-emissivity glass** - low-emissivity or low-e glass features a special coating that reflects heat back into the home, improving a property's thermal performance.



# WHAT WAYS CAN DOORS BE CUSTOMISED?



## Locking hardware

The locking hardware you choose for your door will determine how protected your home is against forced entry attempts. Examples of the locking hardware we offer here at Droylsden Glass include:

- **Multipoint locks** – these are key-operated and work by securing the door at a range of points around the framing.
- **Dog bolts** – dog bolts involve the use of a hook which engages a routed chamber when unauthorised force is applied to a door, securing the door sash and frame together.
- **Mortice deadlocks** – this is a key-operated lock used on entrance doors. When the key is turned, a deadbolt inserts from the door sash into the frame, securing the door.
- **Glass clamps** – glass clamps make any areas of glazing more difficult to remove, and we use them on our uPVC entrance, French and patio doors.



ULTION 

## Ultion locking cylinders

Ultion lock cylinders are available for fitting to our standard composite doors, Solidor composite doors and uPVC sliding patio doors. One of the securest locking cylinders of their kind, they are resistant to a wide variety of forced-entry techniques, especially lock snapping – they can still prevent entry to your home even after being snapped twice!

## Kubu smart door locks

Combining an advanced locking system with smartphone technology, Kubu smart door locks can notify you whenever someone uses your door and allow you to check if your door is locked remotely.

Plus, they have a perimeter feature which notifies you if your door is unlocked once you've walked far enough from your home to disconnect your phone from your Wi-Fi. They really are the door locks of the future today!



# WHAT WAYS CAN DOORS BE CUSTOMISED?



## Colour/finish

The colour of a door/set of doors directly affects how well it fits in with the overall property. The good thing is that so many different options are available, so you're certain to find something suitable.

If you prefer a more traditional looking door, a woodgrain foil finish could be the best way to go. Woodgrain foils replicate the textured stylish appearance of timber. However, smooth finishes are available to choose from too.

You can also choose to have a different colour for the inside and outside part of the door, known as dual colour. With this option, you can match the door to your property's interior as well as the exterior.



## Framing

There are two different types of framing available: chamfered and sculptured. Each can fit nicely upon any home, however, chamfered frames feature a flatter, more streamlined profile. Sculptured frames, on the other hand, are more curved in appearance. They're often used on cottages and period properties.



## Threshold

The door threshold is the sloped cross piece that extends across the bottom of a door. They are fitted with weather stripping for insulation and they come in different sizes. A lower threshold allows you to transition through the doors more easily than a higher one. Therefore, if you or anyone in your home requires ease of access, we recommend opting for the low threshold option.

## HOW LONG ARE DOORS GUARANTEED FOR?

---

Every door installed by us is guaranteed for 10 years and this covers most of the door's components. However, certain forms of ironmongery do not fall under this guarantee. Our guarantees are also insurance backed, which basically means that, in the event that we cease trading or go into liquidation, you will still have cover.

## PAYING FOR A NEW DOOR

---

By card, cash, cheque or bank transfer, you can pay for a new door in whatever way you like. Although, if you'd prefer not to pay the whole amount in one lump sum, we also offer a selection of finance options that you can take advantage of.

### Finance options available from us

- 5 years interest free credit with no arrangement and settlement fees\*
- Buy now pay 12 months later\*

Finance is subject to application and status. If you have a poor credit history, however, finance might not be available to you.



**5 YEARS**  
INTEREST  
**FREE**  
CREDIT\*

**BUY NOW**  
**PAY LATER\***





## FINAL CONSIDERATIONS

Purchasing a new or replacement door is an excellent decision, although it is not one that should be taken lightly. It's important you know what you're after and exactly what you will be getting before anything is installed. So, if you're unsure about anything, no matter how big or small, please feel free to get in touch with us. We want you to be fully confident in your purchase so are more than happy to answer any questions you have and provide our expert advice. You can call us on **0161 292 1122** or contact us via email on **info@droylsdenglass.co.uk**.

### Visit our Showroom

42-56 Audenshaw Road  
Audenshaw  
Manchester  
M34 5HJ

**For SAT NAVs please use**  
York Street, Audenshaw,  
Manchester M34 5JH

**Checkatrade.com**  
Where reputation matters

 Trustpilot

**0161 292 1122 | WWW.DROYLSDENGLASS.CO.UK**

**DROYLSDEN  
GLASS**

*Windows & Conservatories*

*Established  
Over 37 years*