

Doors

Allow people to go in and out of a building or room – some might be one way only - exit only, entry only – or used only for emergencies. They also:

- keep cold air out and warm air in or the other way around, for example the door on an oven must be kept closed to keep food hot
- give privacy
- help security, so that only certain people with a key or who are invited can enter and exit

Doors can be made of UPVC, wood, metal or glass. It is important that they fit the frame properly so that air, light and noise do not get in. You need to be able to open the door so that you can go through it. As doors let in draughts, it is a good idea to draught proof, so that the temperature inside your home stays the same and you don't waste energy. Draught excluders are made for this job.

Doors can be made of sustainable or reclaimed wood, which is one way of making your door environmentally friendly.

Some doors are made of special materials so that they give extra protection, for example, a fire door. These special doors and frames have been made to help stop or slow down the spread of fire.

Doors might also be decorated, carved or painted.

Prices

- Exterior doors made of wood can cost between £200 and £1,700.
- Exterior UPVC doors can cost between £350 and £1,000.
- Interior doors can cost anywhere between £25 and £500.

Things you might find on a door

- A door handle, so that the door can be opened
- A glass pane or window to let light in
- A peephole, so that the person behind the door can see though to the other side without having to open it
- The number or name of the house so that visitors can tell which door is yours
- A letter box, so that mail can go through the door without it having to be opened
- A doorbell or knocker, so that guests can tell the people inside that they would like to come in
- Locks, for security