

Glossary of Security Terminology



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Sold Secure

Sold Secure provides test and assessment services of effective security products to commercial customers, the insurance industry, The Home Office, the Police and the public

Sold Secure is a non-profit making company dedicated to reducing the risk of theft by the assessment of security products. Sold Secure was established in 1992 by Northumbria and Essex Police with the help and backing of the Home Office. It is now administered by the Master Locksmiths Association.

We have close ties with a number of constabularies and insurers who provide regular information regarding the method of theft and the tools utilised by criminals in their area. This helps to maintain an up to date specification and means that security products can be assessed in the light of the risk that they are likely to encounter when in use.

Manufacturers and suppliers can apply to have their products approved by Sold Secure. Products which have been satisfactorily assessed may bear the Sold Secure Quality Mark. Information on these Approved Products is circulated by Sold Secure to crime reduction officers, insurance companies, the media, the Home Office and the public, and is available free to those who require it.

For more information on Sold Secure and our Approved Products List see our web site at **www.soldsecure.com**

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Updates

As the security industry moves forward, new technologies and terms come into use. If there are any additions/amendments that you would like to see in the next edition of this Glossary, please send us the details on the form below. Many thanks for your support.

Word:

Category:

Comments:

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24 hour circuits	Alarm
This is the part of the alarm system which is permanently set or monitored such as deliberately operated devices or anti-tamper devices.	
ABC signalling	Alarm
This was the forerunner to Redcare known as Alarms By Carrier.	
Acoustic detectors	Alarm
The initial use of acoustic detectors was to detect noises in the audible range of frequencies as in most instances it is impossible to gain entry without noise. More recently acoustic detectors consist of microphones such that central stations can monitor alarmed premises to confirm an alarm condition.	
Action	Locksmith
The arrangement of the spring bolt and its accessories in a lock or latch, and how they function.	
Active leaf	Building
The leaf of a double door that is to be opened first.	This is the second closing door.
Active RFID	RFID
Active RFID systems are those where the transponder requires a power source to operate.	Active RFID transponders usually have a longer range than passive RFID transponders but do require the battery to be changed at regular intervals.
Activity detection	CCTV
See Video Motion Detection	
Aftermarket equipment	Vehicle
Vehicle equipment installed at any stage following vehicle production.	
Alarm condition	Alarm Vehicle
The condition where an intrusion or interference is detected.	

Alarm upgrade	Vehicle
The addition or enhancement of an alarm function to increase the protection afforded by a vehicle security system.	
Alarm verification	Alarm
To reduce false alarms some systems or Central Stations require a verification of the alarm from two separate detectors before they will generate an alarm condition.	
Alarm	Alarm Vehicle
A security system which shall indicate actions such as intrusion into or interference with the vehicle or building.	
Alike change	Locksmith
More than one lock or latch which can be operated by the same key.	Also known as Keyed Alike
All to pass	Locksmith
Often referred to as "locks to pass" i.e. a number of locks which can be passed or keyed alike (opened by the same key).	See also Alike Change
Alpha-numeric display	Alarm
An alarm system display which uses text rather than LEDs to indicate the system condition.	
American Society for Testing of Materials (ASTM)	Organisation
Organisation which produces various specifications including those for security products.	ASTM 1916 Race Street Philadelphia PA 19103

Anchor system	Vehicle Property
An anchor system is a device permanently installed in the ground or other suitable surface and which is intended to either secure a vehicle or allow a vehicle to be secured to it.	
Angle cuts	Locksmith
A measurement usually expressed in degrees, for the angle between the two sides of a key cut.	
Angle of view	CCTV
The angular range that can be seen by the camera.	Lenses with small focal lengths will provide a wide angle of view and long focal lengths will give a narrow angle of view.
Annealed glass	Building
This is the most common glass found in buildings. It easily breaks forming large sharp fragments. It has little security benefit.	Also known as Float Glass or Window Glass
ANPR	CCTV
Acronym for Automatic Number Plate Recognition.	ANPR can be used in security applications for detection of stolen vehicles and also for access control.
Anti collision technology	RFID
Anti collision technologies are used where multiple transponders might be present and need to be read simultaneously by the base station.	
Anti-lift device, Anti-lift block	Building
A device which prevents a door or window from being lifted in its aperture, where this lifting would decrease the effectiveness of a lock or enable the door/window to be removed.	

Anti-tamper switch	Alarm
A device on an alarm system such that unauthorised personnel cannot interfere with the equipment without causing an alarm condition.	These are found in the alarm bells, control and signalling panels, movement detectors, etc.
Anti-thrust bolt	Locksmith
A spring bolt (especially for a night latch) which cannot be pushed back when it has extended and fastened a door, although it can be withdrawn by knob or key.	This security device is usually achieved by a dog inside the latch case which falls behind the bolt and keeps it extended when an auxiliary slide is pushed in.
Anti-thrust plate	Locksmith
An overlapping metal plate fitted to outward opening doors so as to prevent access to lock bolts.	
Aperture closure	Building
An aperture closure is any physical device which fits within an opening, to allow or preclude passage; such as a door, window or gate.	
Aperture	CCTV
The size of the lens opening which governs the amount of light striking the pickup device.	The aperture size is measured by the f-stop and is controlled by the iris adjustment.
Armed	Alarm Vehicle
See Set	
Arming	Alarm Vehicle
See Setting	
Armoured fore end	Locksmith
The American term for a double fore end, comprising one inner and one separate outer fore end.	
Association of British Insurers (ABI)	Organisation
The organisation representing the UK's insurance companies.	51 Gresham Street London EC2V 7HQ

Association of Chief Police Officers (ACPO)	Organisation
The association which develops an integrated policing policy.	
Attack test	General
An attack test is the replication of a criminal attack on a security product.	
Audio detector	Alarm
See Break Glass Detector	
Auto talk	RFID
An auto talk transponder starts transmitting whenever it enters the field of a base station without the need of a special command.	
Auto white balance	CCTV
Auto white balance is incorporated into some colour cameras. It monitors the incoming light and adjusts the camera to maintain white areas.	
Autodialler	Alarm
Autodialler or 999 is not commonly found in this country. It used the normal telephone cabling to connect to the public network. It relied on a mechanical device to relay a recorded message to the police via the telephone system.	As the recipient might not hear the message or could be unable to record the address, etc. the system proved to be unreliable and was replaced by the Digital Communicator.
Automatic deadlatch	Locksmith
A deadlatch, the main bolt of which is automatically locked (or deadlocked) when the door is closed.	
Automatic iris lens	CCTV
An automatic iris lens monitors the incoming light and adjusts the aperture opening (f-stop) to ensure that the correct level of light enters the camera pickup.	

Automatic level control (ALC)	CCTV
Automatic level control is found on Auto Iris Lenses. This control will set the lens sensitivity to cater either for the brighter areas or the shadowed areas to be brought into detail.	
Back light compensation (BLC)	CCTV
Back light compensation is incorporated on some cameras with CCD pickups. It automatically compensates for high background lighting conditions giving more detail to shaded areas.	
Back up battery	Alarm
See Stand By Battery	
Backplate	Locksmith
The plate, fixed on a door, to which the moving parts of a lock or latch are attached.	
Backset	Locksmith
The horizontal distance from the outside face of the outer fore end to the centre of the keyhole or follower hole (or both). Designated as the "keyhole backset" or "follower backset".	
Banbury lock	Locksmith
An old style door lock in which the various metal pieces are fitted separately in a block of wood which, in effect, forms the lock case. Also known as a wooden stock lock.	
Bar (of lever)	Locksmith
The part of the lever between the pockets which is slotted to allow the bolt stump to pass through.	

Barrel and curtain	Locksmith
This is the full name of a security device fitted in some locks to turn and close the keyhole when the key or any other instrument inserted through the keyhole is turned. The barrel is a tubular part surrounding that portion of the shank of the key which enters the lock, and the curtain, attached to the barrel, is a disc fitting close to the underside of the cap of the lock. A spring with its end to enter the notch in the edge of the curtain is usually fitted to keep the barrel and curtain in place.	
Barrel bolt	Building
A device where a shoot runs in a continuous guide attached to a backplate. The shoot is provided with a knob or similar for operation by hand.	See also Rim bolt, Security bolt, Tower bolt
Barrel key	Locksmith
An American term for pipe key.	
Barrel	Locksmith
See Plug	
Base station	RFID
The unit that is used to communicate with transponders and contactless smart cards. It has a RF transmitter and receiver and an interface to connect it with a display unit or other systems.	Also known as a Read/Write Unit
Bathroom lock	Locksmith
A latch with a spring bolt operable on both sides by furniture, and a dead bolt operable from the inside only, usually by thumb turn or slide bolt.	
Bell box	Alarm
See Local Audible Alarm	

Belly (of lever)	Locksmith
The edge of the lever, generally curved, which the key touches to lift it.	
Birmingham bar	Building
A steel bar fitted to the inside face of a door frame on the hinge side.	
Bit or key bit	Locksmith
That part of a key which is specially shaped or notched to operate the mechanism of its own particular lock or latch.	
Bitting	Locksmith
The shaping or notching of a key blank to transform it into a key to operate its own lock or latch.	
Blade (of key)	Locksmith
That part of a cylinder or lever key which is to be or has been notched.	
Blank	Locksmith
A partly made key, which has been shaped to enter the keyhole of a certain type of lock or latch, but of which the blade has not been finally notched to operate any individual lock.	
Blocking	Alarm
See Jamming	
Blooming	CCTV
Blooming is the term used for the halation effect around an area of the picture where there is a high level of brightness.	
Bolt head	Locksmith
The portion of a bolt that protrudes beyond the case or fore end of a lock.	
Bolt hole	Locksmith
The hole in a case, fore end, plate or staple to guide and/or admit the bolt.	

Bolt stump	Locksmith
This is the name of the part (usually rectangular in section) that upstands on a dead bolt or runner and which passes through the slot or gating in the levers as the bolt moves.	
Bolt (1)	Locksmith
The part of a lock or latch which provides the engagement in the keep, staple, striking plate, link, shackle or other member.	See also Barrel bolt, Mortise bolt, Rim bolt, Security bolt, Tower Bolt
Bolt (2)	Building
A supplementary security device where a shoot runs in a guide attached to a backplate. The shoot is provided with a knob or similar for operation by hand.	See also Barrel bolt, Mortise bolt, Rim bolt, Security bolt, Tower Bolt
Boltwork	Safe
Mechanism by which a shut door is held such that until it is in the withdrawn position the door cannot be opened.	
Bored lock/latch set	Locksmith
See Tubular Mortise Lock or Latch	
Boss head	Locksmith
See Staple	
Bow	Locksmith
That part of the key which is held in the fingers when operating the lock or latch.	
Box lock	Locksmith
A lock for fitting to the front of a box with a hinged lid. In the larger sizes the bolt of the lock, usually key operated, has two locking points to engage the two links on the link plate which is fixed to the lid.	
Box striker or box striking plate	Locksmith
A striking plate having a box shape around the bolt hole to receive the dead bolt, used for greater security.	

Break glass bolt	Building
A (spring loaded) bolt that is held in the locked position until the glass (or plastic) tube or panel is broken.	
Break glass detector	Alarm
A break glass detector is a sensor tuned so that it only reacts to the frequencies typical in breaking glass. Some are tuned to react only to the harmonics caused by breaking glass as this reduces the risk of a false alarm.	Where laminated or wired glass is used, the vibrations created by breaking these are not the same as for normal glass. Hence the sensors may need to be tuned for the appropriate glass type. Patterned glass may not allow adequate adhesion of the sensors.
Break glass security deadlock	Building
These are deadlocks which can be operated from the outside in the normal manner but operate from the inside by striking a panel or moving a lever to break the glass.	
Bridge ward	Locksmith
A ward fitted in some two sided locks, the wards being fixed to a plate or bridge which is in the centre of the thickness of the lock and carried on cheeks.	
British Board of Agreement (BA)	Organisation
An organisation which certifies building products including window and door security.	BBA PO Box 195 Bucknalls Lane Garston Watford WD2 7NG
BS 1722 Part 10	Standard
Specification for anti-intruder fences in chain link and welded mesh.	Requirements for fences and gates 2.8 m high to be barbed wire topping For use in general industrial security.
BS 1722 Part 12	Standard
Specification for steel palisade fences.	For general purpose and security fences including materials, construction and erection. Includes a method of test for flexural strength and advice on specifying.

BS 2881	Standard
Specification for cupboards for the storage of medicines in health care premises	Cupboards of three security levels for the storage of medicines at ambient temperature.
BS 2911	Standard
Specification for letter plates	This contains recommendations for maximum sizes of letter plates to restrict access to the lock.
BS 3621	Standard
Specification for Thief Resistant Locks. This British Standard specifies design requirements, test methods and performance requirements for thief resistant locks operated by keys with mechanical patterns and intended for fixed mounting on hinged or sliding doors to provide reasonable security against unauthorised entry. Provision is made within the specification for locks having claw or hook bolts, mounted on hinged or sliding doors, and for locks having spring bolts, or dead bolts of either single or multiple throw, mounted on hinged doors.	This will be replaced by European Standard EN 12209

BS 4737	Standard
BS 4737 Specification for Intruder Alarm Systems In Buildings	Including the following parts: Part 2:1986 Specification for installed systems for deliberate operations. Part 3 Specification for components Part 3: Section 3:1:1977 Continuous wiring Part 3: Section 3:2 1977 Foil on glass Part 3: Section 3:3: 1977 Protective Switches Part 3: Section 3:4: 1978 Radiowave Doppler detectors Part 3: Section 3:5: 1978 Ultrasonic movement detectors Part 3: Section 3:7: 1978 Passive infra-red detectors Part 3: Section 3:8: 1978 Volumetric capacitive detectors Part 3: Section 3:10: 1978 Vibration detectors Part 3: Section 3:12: 1978 Beam interruption detectors Part 3: Section 3:13: 1978 Capacity proximity detectors Part 3: Section 3:14: 1986 Specification for deliberately-operated devices Part 3: Section 3:30: 1986 Specification for PVC insulated cables for inter connecting wiring. Part 4 Code of practice Part 4: Section 4:1: 1987 Code of practice for planning an installation Part 4: Section 4:2: 1986 Code of practice for maintenance and records. Part 4: Section 4:3: 1988 Code of practice for exterior alarm systems Part 5 Terms and symbols Part 5: Section 5:2: 1988 Recommendations for symbols for diagrams
BS 4951	Standard
Specification for builders' hardware; lock and latch furniture (doors)	Performance test and criteria for lever and knob furniture for locks and latches on doors. Metric dimensions of furniture for mortise locks and latches complying with BS 455.
BS 5051	Standard
Security Glazing: Part 1 Bullet resistant glazing for interior use. Part 2 Bullet resistant glazing for exterior use.	

BS 5357	Standard
Code of practice for the installation of security glazing	Recommendations for installing framed security glazing and unframed bullet resistant glazing for internal use.
BS 5544	Standard
Specification for Anti-bandit Glazing (Glazing Resistant to Manual Attack)	This standard considers security glazing to a level higher than that specified in BS 6206.
BS 5872	Standard
Specification for locks & latches for doors in buildings.	Test and performance levels for locks and latches for doors used in buildings for use in housing. Also specifies dimensions. Does not include locks and latches for fire doors.
BS 5979	Standard
Specification for direct line signalling systems and for remote centres for intruder alarm systems.	
BS 6206	Standard
Specification for impact performance requirements for flat safety glass and safety plastics for use in buildings.	This standard is for safety glass and gives no indication to security performance.
BS 6799	Standard
Wire Free Alarms	Code of Practice for wire-free intruder alarm systems for consumer installation. Components and performance of 'do it yourself' intruder alarm systems in kit form or as self-contained units. Marking, labelling an instruction requirements with an appendix giving appropriate advice regarding planning, installation and use of a system for inclusion in the instruction manual.
BS 6803	Standard
Vehicle security alarm systems	Includes BS 6803 Part 1, & Part 3

BS 7042	Standard
High security alarms	Specification for high security intruder alarm systems in buildings. General requirements for alarm systems, with additional requirements for specific types of premises or activity such as cash-handling, providing an enhanced level of security beyond that of BS 4737. Appropriate to the protection of premises, articles and/or operations of especial value or of a sensitive nature.
BS 7150	Standard
Code of practice for intruder alarm systems with mains wiring communication.	Recommendations for construction, installation and operation.
BS 7230	Standard
Code of practice for article theft detection systems	Selection, installation, operation and management of security systems intended to detect or deter the theft of articles from shops, libraries, museums, offices etc.
BS 7480	Standard
Specification for security seals	Requirement for seals used for the physical securing of containers, enclosures and secure areas to deter and or indicate tampering or unauthorised entry.
BS 7499	Standard
Code of practice for static guarding, mobile patrol services and keyholding services.	
BS 7558	Standard
Specification for gun cabinets	Requirements for the construction and security of cabinets intended for the secure storage of firearms & ammunition.

BS 7807	Standard
Code of practice for the design, installation and servicing of integrated systems incorporating fire detection and alarm systems and/or other security systems for buildings other than dwellings.	Provides recommendations for the integration of a security system with other security systems for use in and around buildings.
BS 7858	Standard
Code of practice for security screening of personnel employed in a security environment.	
BS 7872	Standard
Code of practice for operation of cash-in-transit services (collection and delivery).	
BS 7931	Standard
Secure carriage of parcels - code of practice.	
BS 7950	Standard
Specification for enhanced security performance of casement and tilt/turn windows for domestic applications.	The current British Standard for security of new and replacement windows of any material. Formerly known as PAS 011.
BS 7958	Standard
Closed circuit television (CCTV) - management and operation - code of practice.	
BS 7960	Standard
Door supervisors/stewards - code of practice.	

BS 8220	Standard
Guide for security of buildings against crime.	Includes: Part 1, Dwelling guidance on security measures aimed at deterring burglars from entering dwellings and helping to prevent criminal damage to dwellings, whether new or existing and whether single or multiple units. Part 2 Offices and shops guidance on security measures aimed at forestalling organised and opportunist crime of offices and shops. Part 3 Warehouse & distribution units guidance on security measures aimed at forestalling both organised and opportunist crime.

BS AU 209	Standard
Vehicle security	Includes the following parts: Part 0: 1996 Guide to the application of security devices/systems to vehicles Part 1a: 1992 Specifications for locking systems for passenger cars and car derived vehicle Part 2: 1998 Specification for security systems intended to deter or prevent the theft of in-car radio, audio & visual equipment Part 3: 1998 Specification for security marking of glazing for passenger cars and car derived vehicles Part 4a: 1995 Specification for security glazing for passenger cars and car derived vehicles. Part 5b: 1996 Specification for central power locking systems for passenger cars and car derived vehicles. Part 6a: Specification for dead locking systems for passenger cars and car derived vehicles. Part 7: 1993 Specifications for locking systems for goods vehicle driver's compartments. Part 8: 1997 Specifications for locking systems for goods vehicle load compartments.

BS EN 1125	Standard
Horizontal panic exit devices	
BS EN 1143-1	Standard
Secure storage units – Requirements, classification and methods of test for resistance to burglary. Part 1. Safes, strongroom doors and strongrooms.	
BS EN 1143-2	Standard
Secure storage units – Requirements, classification and methods of test for resistance to burglary. Part 2. Deposit systems.	
BS EN 1154	Standard
Controlled door closing devices.	
BS EN 1155	Standard
Electrically powered hold-open devices	
BS EN 1158	Standard
Door co-ordinator devices	
BS EN 12051	Standard
Door & window bolts	
BS EN 12320	Standard
Building Hardware – Padlocks and padlock fittings – Requirements and test methods.	This standard specifies performance requirements and describes test methods for strength, security, function and corrosion of padlocks and padlock fittings used in building applications but excluding cables and chains. Requirements which relate to security are classified in six grades, based on performance tests which simulate attack.
BS EN 1303	Standard
Building hardware – Cylinders for locks - Requirements and test methods	This European Standard gives 5 grades of security for cylinders. A minimum of Grade 4 should be used for domestic security.

BS EN 1527	Standard
Sliding door hardware	
BS EN 1670	Standard
Building hardware – Corrosion resistance - Requirements and test methods	
BS EN 179	Standard
Emergency exit devices	
BS EN 50130-4	Standards
EMC immunity requirements	
BS EN 50130-5	Standard
Environmental tests	
BS EN 50131-1	Standard
Intruder alarms - system requirements	
BS EN 50131-6	Standard
Intruder alarms - Power supplies	
BS EN 50132	Standard
Alarm systems. CCTV surveillance systems for use in security applications.	
BS EN 50132-2-1	Standard
CCTV - Black & white cameras	
BS EN 50132-7	Standard
CCTV - Application guideline	
BS EN 50133	Standard
Alarm systems. Access control systems for use in security applications.	
BS EN 50133-1	Standard
Access control - System requirements	
BS EN 50133-7	Standard
Access control – Application guidelines	

BS EN 50134-7	Standard
Social alarms - Application guidelines	Replacing BS 7524
BS EN 50136-1-1	Standard
Alarm transmission – General system requirements	
BS EN 50136-1-2	Standard
Alarm transmission - System requirements for dedicated alarm paths	
BS EN 50136-1-3	Standard
Alarm transmission - System requirements for digital communicators.	
BS EN 50136-1-4	Standard
Alarm transmission - System requirements for voice communicators.	
BS EN 50136-2-1	Standard
Alarm transmission - General equipment requirements.	
BS EN 50136-2-2	Standard
Alarm transmission - Equipment requirements for dedicated alarm paths.	
BS EN 50136-2-3	Standard
Alarm transmission - Equipment for digital communicators	
BS EN 50136-2-4	Standard
Alarm transmission - Equipment requirements for voice communicators	
Building Research Establishment (BRE)	Organisation
A research establishment that specialises in building products including window and door security.	Building Research Establishment Garston Watford WD2 7JR

Built in safe	Safe
Safe whose protection against burglary is partly dependant upon materials incorporated into it, or attached to it during installation.	
Bullet or bulletted	Locksmith
1) In a key, bullets are the longitudinal grooves or projections on a key bit requiring a keyhole formed to suit. 2) In a lock, they are the corresponding grooves or projections at the keyhole, designed to prevent the entry of a key which is not properly shaped.	
Burglar bars	Building
Steel bars cut to length and fixed internally to window frames.	
Bush	Locksmith
A lining (usually brass) around the key or follower hole in a lock case, giving smoother working and longer life to the rotating parts. The keyhole bush is often milled so as to form wards on one or both sides of the inside of the lock case. See sash wards.	
Butt hinge	Building
A traditional door hinge. One leaf is screwed to the doorpost and the other to the edge of the hanging stile of the door.	
Bypass	Alarm
On most alarm system a detector or group of detectors can be bypassed or rendered inactive.	This is most often used when a detector is faulty, during maintenance or when part of the premises are occupied.

C mount, CS mount	CCTV
CCTV lenses are available with two different types of lens mount. C mount and CS mount.	C mount lenses have a flange back distance of 17.5mm whilst CS mount lenses have 12.5mm. Most modern cameras can accept either type of lens mount with the appropriate adjustments. CS mount cameras can utilise C mount lenses with the appropriate adapters. However, C mount cameras cannot use CS mount lenses due to their shorter back focal distance.
Cabin area	Vehicle
The space within the vehicle cabin compartment.	
Cabinet lock	Locksmith
A generic term to include all locks of any type for use on pieces of furniture, such as cupboards, drawers, chests, boxes and the like.	
Cam lock	Locksmith
A complete locking assembly in the form of a cylinder whose cam is the actual locking bolt.	
Cam	Locksmith
A tongue fixed to the end of the plug of a cylinder lock or latch that when rotated will operate the lock mechanism.	
Cap (of the lock)	Locksmith
The part of a lock or latch which covers the mechanism and is fixed, usually by screwing, to the case.	Also known as the Cover
Case	Locksmith
That part of a lock or latch containing the mechanism.	
Casement door	Building
A hinged door or pair of doors almost wholly glazed, often called a french window.	

Casement stay	Building
These are used to hold the opened sash of a casement window in position for ventilation purposes.	When the window is closed this offers minimal security. They can be fitted with a key lock to give slightly better security.
Casement window	Building
The most common window type in the UK. This type of window has sashes which hinge open outwards. Common materials are timber, steel, aluminium and PVCu.	
CCD (Charged Coupled Device)	CCTV
A CCD chip is the light sensitive device in newer cameras that receives the image from the lens.	
CCTV	CCTV
Closed Circuit Television.	
Cellar flaps & gratings	Building
These provide a means of access to the basement of many properties (e.g. licensed premises).	These are often neglected when considering building security. Often the best means of securing these is by means of padbolts on the inside of the building. Gratings may be secured by means of padlocks and chains.
Central locking	Building Vehicle
A system whereby all locks on the vehicle or building are activated from a single point.	
Central station	Alarm
The location where all signals from a monitored alarm system are received.	The central station reports any alarm or maintenance signals to the appropriate organisation. Stations operate on a 24 hour basis and are equipped to resist criminal attack. These have replaced signalling methods which used to go direct to police stations.

Centres	Locksmith
The vertical measurement in an upright or sash lock between the centre of the keyhole and the centre of the follower hole.	
Ceramic Marking	Property Marking
Ceramic marking pens are an overt marking system for glass and china. They do not damage the glaze but leave an indelible mark on the surface.	
Certified	Standard
A product subjected to a testing and ongoing audit programme by an approved organisation.	
Chamber	Locksmith
The holes in cylinder housings that house drivers and springs.	
Change key locks	Locksmith
These are locks which can be operated by any one key chosen from a large number of different keys that have been made for the purpose. The selected key is the only one which will open the lock until a change is deliberately made.	
Change key	Locksmith
Another term for Servant Key or Changing Key.	
Change (of key)	Locksmith
See Differ	
Changing key	Locksmith
One used in some keyless combination and change key locks to enable the combination to be altered.	Also known as a Change Key
Chime zone	Alarm
When a chime zone detector is activated the alarm system will provide an audible signal but not a full alarm.	Chime zones are usually permanently set on chime. They are often used on doors to give an indication of entry. Also known as Watch or Monitor Zone.

Chip card	RFID
A card which contains an integrated circuit as opposed to a magnetic stripe card.	
Chop shop	Vehicle
An illegal organisation that takes stolen vehicles and dismantles them to create Clones or Ringers or to sell the individual components.	
Circlip	Locksmith
A ring with open ends which can be sprung into place on a plug or other part to permit rotation but to prevent endwise movement.	
Claw bolt	Locksmith
A type of dead bolt having pivoted claws which swing out when the bolt is shot. Such locks are often fixed to sliding doors.	
Clone	Vehicle
A stolen vehicle disguised with the identity of another legitimate vehicle which is still in existence.	
Closed shackle padlock	Locksmith
A padlock, the body of which is built up so that the minimum amount of shackle is visible when locked.	The closed shackle padlock offers improved security against forcing or use of bolt croppers. See BS EN 12320
Clutch headed screw	Locksmith
Threaded screws with a shaped head allowing a normal clockwise action to fix but not allowing an anticlockwise action to remove.	See Security screw Also known as One Way Screw

Coaxial cable	CCTV
Coaxial cable is usually used to carry the signal from the cameras. It consists of a centre wire carrying the signal surrounded by a braided metal sheath which carries the earth and provides shielding from external electrical signals.	
Cock spur handle	Building
This is the traditional handle used to secure a casement window. When the handle is operated, a 'spur' on the side engages in a keep on the window frame. These may be fitted with a lock to give a measure of security.	It is recommended that a sash greater than 600mm in any direction is fitted with at least two handles or locking devices.
Code hopping	Alarm Vehicle
See Rolling Code	
Coded Fuel Valve	Vehicle
A valve which isolates the fuel supply from the engine until activated by means of a key or keypad.	
Coded ICE	Vehicle
The in car entertainment (ICE) system requires a code to be input following its disconnection from the power supply.	
Coded system (asset marking)	Marking Property Vehicle
A coded system is one where a private database needs to be accessed to determine the owner of the asset.	
Coined	Locksmith
A term which signifies embossing, that is, the forcing of cold metal between dies to give it form without cutting the metal.	The impressions on coins at the Royal Mint are made in this way and so are those on the bows of cylinder keys.

Collar ward	Locksmith
A side ward cut closest to the pin adjacent to the collar.	
Collar	Locksmith
The shoulder on the shank of a rim, mortise or bitted key, controlling the point at which the key comes to rest after being fully inserted into the lock. The collar is the datum point from which the key is measured.	
Combination lock	Locksmith
A lock which requires the input of a numeric or alpha-numeric code to activate it. An abbreviation of name for a keyless combination lock.	
Concealed fixing (of locks or latches)	Locksmith
A backplate is screwed to the door, the lock case slides over it and is secured in position by two or more grub screws which are concealed whenever the door is closed.	
Conditional refresh	CCTV
A system where only a portion of the image is transmitted based on the parts of the image that have changed.	
Connecting bar	Locksmith
The thin metal strip fitted to the rear of the plug which transmits the motion from the tumbler mechanism of the cylinder to the spring bolt in the case of a cylinder rim latch or lock. It passes through the thickness of the door, and is usually indented at intervals to facilitate shortening to the correct length.	
Contactless smart card	RFID
A chip card with contactless (RF) interface which has the functionality of a smart card.	

Contacts	Alarm
A pair of electrical contacts fitted to items such as a door and door frame. When the door is opened the circuit, is broken causing an alarm condition.	
Continuous wiring	Alarm
To prevent attacks through a wall it is possible to place a continuous wire along its inside surface. Breaking of the wire will cause an alarm condition.	Typically wires are stapled at 100mm centres along the wall.
Control equipment, control box	Alarm Vehicle
The components of the security system which process the setting and unsetting commands and accept the signals from the detectors to allow an alarm condition to be indicated.	
Cover	Locksmith
See Cap	
Covert marking	Marking Property Vehicle
Covert marking systems are systems which are not readily visible with the naked eye.	Covert systems are primarily an aid to identify stolen property.
Creep zone	Alarm
Typically detectors are placed high on a wall to deter tampering. This might create a dead spot immediately below the detector which is not scanned. This is known as the creep zone.	Some detectors are fitted with 'creep zone protection' which means that they have a mechanism for monitoring this area.
Cross differ	Locksmith
An error situation whereby servant keys operate more than one lock when this was not intended.	
Cross garnet hinge	Building
A type of hinge which is designed to be screwed across the face of the door. Usually used on the outside of ledged doors. Also known as a scotch tie or T hinge.	Its strength lies in the grip of the screw threads and, where these hinges are fitted externally, they should be further secured by bolts fitted internally.

Cross rail	Building
The horizontal member of a door.	

Cross suiting	Locksmith
This is a departure from straightforward master keying and is best explained by examples of cases which often occur: 1) Two or more different servant keys are required to pass one lock, all being in the same suite or subsuite. 2) One servant key is required to pass two or more different locks, all being in the same suite or subsuite. 3) A servant or submaster key of one subsuite is required to pass one or more locks in another subsuite. Also known as interpassing.	

Crosstalk	CCTV
Crosstalk occurs where another signal interferes with the signal from the required camera.	

Current sensing	Vehicle
A current sensing alarm system monitors the vehicle's current drain on the battery. Any increase in current drain, such as a courtesy light, causes an alarm condition.	Also known as Voltage Drop.

Curtain	Locksmith
An abbreviation for Barrel and Curtain	

Cut cabinet lock	Locksmith
A cupboard or drawer lock, the flange of which is recessed into the edge of the drawer or door.	

Cylinder housing	Locksmith
The main body of a cylinder with all component parts removed.	

Cylinder key	Locksmith
A key having a bow and long blade in which Vee cuts are made along the upper edge to operate the pins and drivers in a pin tumbler mechanism.	

Cylinder lock or latch	Locksmith
Any lock or latch, the mechanism of which is contained in a cylinder.	
Cylinder pin tumbler lock	Locksmith
A lock using the cylinder pin tumbler mechanism. The cylinder with its co-axial plug houses the pins and drivers under spring pressure. The correct key lines up the pins and drivers to make a clear line of intersection between plug and cylinder, thus allowing the plug to rotate and the lock to be operated.	The mechanism offers high security against key interchangeability and anti-pick mushroom drivers are usually included in every cylinder. For example, Yale 5 pin cylinders offer up to 24,000 differs as standard. It is also very suitable for master keying, as many different types of locks or latches can be included in the suite. Under master key, 12,200 differs are obtainable and under grand master key, 36 different sub suites with up to a total of 2,200 differs can be provided.
Cylinder rose / cylinder ring	Locksmith
A shaped metal disc which surrounds the outer face of the cylinder of a cylinder mechanism assembly. It usually stands slightly proud of the outside face of door.	
Cylinder	Locksmith
The cylinder housing complete with inner plug which holds the pins, drivers, or disc tumblers and springs.	Also see Eurocylinder
Dallas key	Alarm
A type of Touch Key in which the key is placed in a receptacle to activate the system.	
Data carrier	RFID
See Transponder, also known as a Tag.	
Data retention time	RFID
The data retention time is the period for which an EEPROM memory can store its information.	This period is typically around ten years but is dependant on the environment in which the memory is used.

Deactivatable transponder	RFID
This is a transponder which may be deactivated.	Often used in shops where the transponder is deactivated at the point of sale.
Dead bolt	Locksmith
A lock bolt that, when locked, is fixed in position and cannot readily be pushed back into the lock case.	
Deadlatch	Locksmith
A nightlatch or latch, the spring bolt of which can be locked (or deadlocked) by key or other means.	
Deadlocking latch	Building
See Deadlatch	
Deadlock	Locksmith
A lock in which the bolt is fixed in its locked position such that the bolt cannot be pushed back into the lock using normal pressure.	
Debit card	RFID
See Memory Card.	
Degausser	CCTV
A machine that removes the magnetic field from an item. Typically used for erasing magnetic (video) tapes.	
Delayed action	Building
A function of a door closer which holds the door open for a set period to allow easy access.	A hold open period that is set too great will lead to possible unauthorised access.

Deliberately operated device.	Alarm Vehicle
A function that can permit the user to activate an alarm.	These devices are often mounted such that they can be inconspicuously operated such as by feet or knees. This may be a hardwired switch, radio pendant etc. They may be linked to a Silent Alarm to prevent reprisals to the operator or to an audible alarm to deter the criminal. Also known as Personal Attack Button or Panic Button.
Deposit safe	Safe
A deposit system which enables employees to deposit valuables into the deposit safe without having to unlock the receiving unit door.	
Deposit system	Safe
A secure storage system consisting of an input unit and a receiving unit.	
Depth of field	CCTV
The depth of field is the range of distances that are in focus from the camera.	A greater f-stop will increase the depth of field of the camera. Hence it is advisable to use the highest f-stop possible with the ambient lighting to give the greatest depth of field.
Detainer	Locksmith
1) A generic term for any part such as a lever or tumbler which keeps a lock bolt in position. 2) The name of the sliding security members in Butter's System locks.	
Detector	Alarm Vehicle
A device that senses and signals an alarm condition.	Also known as a Sensor

Differ	Locksmith
An abbreviation of "different combinations" or changes. This term is used to describe the number of variations in keys that can be provided in a lock. The differ of the lock is often indicated by an alpha-numeric code on the bow.	The number of differs can be calculated from the number of levers or pins (N) in the lock and the number of possible steps (S) for each lever or pin. For a lock with a single lever, the number of differs is simply the number of steps (S). When the lock has two levers this becomes S x S. For three levers S x S x S. (or S ^N) and so on. However, there are a number of combinations which cannot be used for production and technical reasons. For example the key to a lock with all levers at the same step would look like a key blank and would not be a desirable form of security from a customer viewpoint. Similarly, deep cuts next to shallow cuts at one end of the key are often avoided as the key can easily be damaged. Also if a lock is double sided the levers will have to be symmetrical so that one key will work from both sides. This means that the number of levers for calculation of differs is substantially reduced. When the all these reductions are made from the theoretical number of differs we are left with the total number of effective differs.

Digital communicator, digicom	Alarm
The digital communicator is the component of an alarm system which communicates with the Central Station. Communication uses conventional telephone wires. The communication is two way to avoid the problems encountered with the Autodialler.	Early Digital Communicators required the use of exclusive (ex-directory) telephone lines to avoid its signals being blocked. More recent Digital Communicators us 'line grabbing' technology which means that they can terminate any calls in progress on the line should it need to send a communication.

Digital	CCTV RFID
A signal which is stored or transmitted using binary numbers.	

Direct line	Alarm
Where an alarm systems is connected to a central station this is usually by means of a telephone line. A direct line is a dedicated telephone line between the alarmed premises and the central station.	The expense of this dedicated line has lead to the development of line grabbing systems.
Disc tumbler lock	Locksmith
A cylinder lock having disc instead of pin tumblers.	Commonly used in vehicles and furniture.
Disc tumblers	Locksmith
The small shaped discs (usually of metal) in the disc tumbler mechanism which are the means of providing different combinations.	
Distribution amplifier	CCTV
A distribution amplifier is a device that takes the video signal and amplifies it so that it can be sent greater distances or to a number of outputs.	
Divided follower	Locksmith
Another name for a split follower, to allow independent operation of the latch or lock from either side of a lock case.	This may be used such that a handle is used to operate the lock from inside but a key is required from the outside.
Dogbolt	Building
See Hinge bolt	
Door closer	Building
A device for closing a door or gate automatically after opening. There are numerous types available.	
Door viewer	Building
Optical device fitted through a door to enable observation without opening the door.	
Double bitted key	Locksmith
One with a bit on each side of the shank.	

Double door	Building
An aperture that is closed by two door leafs hinged on opposite sides of the aperture. The second closing door usually restrains the first closing door from opening.	The security standard for new double doors is ENv 1627. For existing domestic double doors the first closing doors should be fitted with flush bolts or security bolts at the top and bottom of the door. The second closing door should be treated as a normal single leaf door.

Double feather spring	Locksmith
Two separate feather springs, fitting closely together one inside the other. Alternatively both may be made from one length of material and remain joined at one end. A spring so made is more lively and likely to last longer than a single spring of thicker material.	

Double fore end	Locksmith
A double fore end comprises one inner and one separate outer fore end.	

Double handed lock	Locksmith
1) A lock designed for use either as a right or left hand installation without alteration, generally by turning upside down. The keyhole has a circular formation at each end of the slot to accept the shank of the key. 2) A cupboard lock, the bolt of which can be shot either way to protrude from either side of the case.	

Double locking	Locksmith
1) By introducing a different cam arrangement into the action of a cylinder rim nightlatch it is possible to give a double or deadlocking facility. A simple opposite turn of the key in the outside cylinder deadlocks both bolt and inside knob simultaneously. This gives protection against the bolt-forcing and the glass or wood panel breaking intruder. 2) Also where a lever lock shoots its bolt by more than one turn of the key, thus doubling the distance of its shoot.	

Down pipe	Building
In building terms a down pipe is a drainage pipe from the building. However, in security terms it refers to any pipe external to the building.	Down pipes may need to be protected with anti-climb paint, spikes or barbed wire. Alternatively, they should be of a weak construction which will not allow access to the building.
Drilled through spindle (for lock furniture)	Locksmith
A spindle with a few holes drilled at each end, one of which accepts the screw passing through the neck of the knob (or lever handle) in the door furniture. (Usually abbreviated to DT).	
Drillpin	Locksmith
A fixed stump or pin in a lock onto which the hollow shank of a pipe key fits when inserted to operate the lock.	
Drivers	Locksmith
Tumblers that rest outside the plug of a cylinder when the key has created the shear line and are housed in the chambers of the cylinder housing. Drivers can be of various shapes other than cylindrical, so as to form anti-rap pins or anti-pick pins. See Mushroom Drivers.	Also known as top pins.
Drop arm	Locksmith
The component in a keyless combination lock which operates the bolt when the combination is set up.	
Drop	Locksmith
1) In drawer, chest, box or similar cabinet locks, the vertical distance from the outside face of the top edge or selvage to the centre of the keyhole. 2) Sometimes this term is used for a keyhole cover on a padlock.	

Dual technology device, dual tech	Alarm
Two different types of detector housed in a single unit. These may be ultrasonic, microwave or passive infra red detectors.	Both of the detectors have to be activated before an alarm is registered. These are designed to reduce the number of false alarms. Often easily identified by the three LEDs on the front of the detector.
Duress	Alarm
Where the user is forced to disarm the alarm system he may be able to type in a duress code. This signals to the central station that the user needs assistance.	
Dust cap (or cover)	Locksmith
A keyhole cover on a padlock and some car-door locks to prevent dust from entering the keyhole. More properly called an escutcheon.	
Dwell time	CCTV
The time a switcher displays a camera signal before moving on to the next camera.	
Ear of key	Locksmith
The projecting stop on one or both edges of a pin tumbler or other key near the bow to prevent the key from being pushed too far into the lock.	Also known as the shoulder
Earth loop	CCTV
An earth loop is caused by a system using earths with slightly different potentials.	Can cause blurring, shadow bars or tearing.
Earth	CCTV
A point with zero electrical potential. Usually connected to mains earth and the instrument casing.	
EAS	RFID
Acronym for Electronic Article Surveillance	There are four main technologies for EAS: Microwave, Magnetic, Acousto-magnetic, Radio Frequency.

Easy action	Locksmith
A lock is designed so that only light spring pressure is required to move the bolt; additional spring pressure is required to move the follower and lock furniture.	This is necessary especially when lock furniture comprises of lever handles, the handles then return to their correct position.
EDI	RFID
Electronic Data Interchange.	
EEPROM	RFID
Acronym for Electrically Erasable Programmable Read-Only Memory.	A non-volatile memory that can be erased and reprogrammed electrically. Used in smart cards.
Egress window	Building
A window designated as an emergency exit in case of fire.	These should have a minimum aperture size and should not be fitted with any form of key lockable hardware. To enhance security these should be fitted with laminated glazing.
Electric striker	Locksmith
See Release	
Electromechanical immobiliser	Vehicle
A vehicle immobiliser controlled by electronics, which provides mechanical isolation or blocking of a vehicle operating system or systems.	
Electronic direct connection key	Vehicle
An electronic Touch Key that is used by making electrical contact with the security system.	
Electronic immobiliser	Vehicle
A vehicle immobiliser controlled by electronics, which can provide either electrical or electronic isolation or blocking of a vehicle operating system or systems.	
Electronic Iris (EI)	CCTV
A feature of cameras with CCD pickups where the camera's sensitivity can be changed to enable a fixed iris lens to be used where an auto iris lens would normally be used.	

Emergency exit door	Building
Any door through which it is intended that people should escape during a fire or other emergency. These doors must remain available for egress any time the premises are occupied. Security may be maintained by means of Panic Bars, Break Glass Bolts etc.	See also Fire Door. No modifications whatsoever should be made to any form of emergency exit door by an unauthorised person.
EN 12209	Standard
Building hardware - Locks and latches - Mechanically operated locks, latches and locking plates - Requirements and test methods.	This standard will replace BS 3621. It proposes five levels of security. It is suggested that it will be published in 2003. It was originally in three parts but now only one.
EN 12209-3	Standard
Building hardware - Locks and latches - Electromechanically operated locks and striking plates - Requirements and test methods	It is not likely to be published under this number. Not yet published (prEN)
EN 13126	Standard
Building hardware - Fittings for windows and door height windows	A 17 part standard covering performance (not security) requirements for most types of window hardware. Not yet published
EN 13633	Standard
Electronically controlled panic exit systems.	Not yet published (prEN)
EN 13637	Standard
Electronically controlled emergency exit systems	Not yet published (prEN)
EN 1906	Standard
Building Hardware: Specification for strength, safety, security, fire safety and durability performance of lever handles and knobs for doors on backplates and roses. Requirements for security lock furniture for use on burglary resistant doors.	Not yet published (prEN)
EN 1935	Standard
Single axis hinges	

EN 50131-2-10	Standard
Intruder alarms - Detectors - Proximity	Not yet written. Requirement may go into EN 50131-2-1 Due to replace BS 4737 Section 3.13
EN 50131-2-1	Standard
Intruder alarms - Detectors - common requirements	Not yet written
EN 50131-2-2	Standard
Intruder alarms - Detectors - Passive infrared	Due to replace BS 4737 Section 3,7
EN 50131-2-3	Standard
Intruder alarms - Detectors - Microwave	Not yet published. Due to replace BS 4737 Section 3.4
EN 50131-2-4	Standard
Intruder alarms - Detectors - Combined PIR/microwave	
EN 50131-2-5	Standard
Intruder alarms - Detectors - Ultrasonic	Not yet written. Due to replace BS 4737 Section 3.5
EN 50131-2-6	Standard
Intruder alarms - Detectors - Opening contacts	Not yet written. Requirements may go into EN 50131-2-1 Due to replace BS 4737 Section 3.3
EN 50131-2-7	Standard
Intruder alarms - Detectors - Glass break, acoustic, seismic	Not yet written. Requirements may go into EN 50131-2-1. Due to replace BS 4737 Section 3.6.
EN 50131-2-8	Standard
Intruder alarms - Detectors - Vibration	Not yet written. Requirements may go onto EN 50131-2-1 Due to replace BS 4737 Section 3.10
EN 50131-2-9	Standard
Intruder alarms - Detectors - Active infrared	Requirements may go into EN 50131-2-1 Due to replace BS 4737 Section 3.12
EN 50131-3	Standard
Intruder alarms - Control & indicating equipment	Not yet published

EN 50131-4	Standard
Intruder alarms - Warning devices	Not yet published
EN 50131-5-2	Standard
Intruder alarms - Systems using non-dedicated wired links	Not yet written
EN 50131-5-3	Standard
Intruder alarms - Systems using wire-free interconnections	Not yet published. Replacing BS 6799
EN 50131-7	Standard
Intruder alarms - Application guideline	Not yet published. Replacing BS 4737 Sections 4.1 & 4.2
EN 50132-1	Standard
CCTV - System requirements	Not yet published
EN 50132-2-2	Standard
CCTV - Colour cameras	Not yet written
EN 50132-2-3	Standard
CCTV - Lenses	Not yet published
EN 50132-4-1	Standard
CCTV - Black & white monitors	Not yet published
EN 50132-4-2	Standard
CCTV - Colour monitors	Not yet written
EN 50132-4-3	Standard
CCTV - Recording equipment	Not yet written
EN 50132-4-5	Standard
CCTV - Video motion	Not yet written
EN 50132-5	Standard
CCTV - Video transmission	Not yet published
EN 50133-2-1	Standard
Access control - General requirements for components	Not yet published
EN 50134	Standard
Social alarms	Not yet published

EN 50134-1	Standard
Social alarms - System requirements	Not yet published
EN 50134-2-1	Standard
Social alarms - Trigger devices	Not yet published
EN 50134-3	Standard
Social alarms - Local unit and controller	Not yet published
EN 50134-5	Standard
Social alarms - Interconnections and communications	Not yet published. Replacing BS 7369, BS 7606
EN 50135	Standard
Wire-free alarms	Requirements for this will be placed into EN 50131 series.
EN 50136	Standard
Alarm transmission	Not yet published
EN 50136-4	Standard
Alarm transmission - Annunciation equipment	Not yet published
EN 50136-7	Standard
Alarm transmission - Application guidelines	Not yet published
En suite	Locksmith
To indicate that locks are incorporated in a master keyed system or keyed alike en-suite.	
Encryption	RFID
The technique of coding information stored in a transponder or smart card to prevent unauthorised access.	
Engagement	Locksmith
The distance that the tip of the bolt or latch engages into the striker plate measured in the direction of throw.	See also Throw and Projection.

EN	Standard
Acronym for Euronorm. The European standards that are replacing national standards throughout the EU.	Once a European standard is adopted in the UK it is usually given the prefix BS. Hence these standards are referred to as BS EN XXXX An EN may also be described as an ENV (or in the UK, DD ENV XXXX). This means the standard is formally published as a prospective standard for provisional application. An EN may also be described as a prEN. This is a European prestandard. This is a standard that is under development and has not yet been through the formal acceptance procedures required for a full European Standard. In this Glossary a prEN is described under its EN number with an appropriate note in the comments.
Entry delay	Alarm
The period of time that the user has to unset the alarm system after entering the building before an alarm condition is generated.	
ENv 1627-1630	Standard
Windows, doors, shutters - Burglar resistance	This suite of standards gives test methods and six grades of security classifications for most types of doors, windows and shutters.
Environmental test	General
A series of tests designed to show that the security system is fit for the environment in which it is to be installed	
EPROM	RFID
Acronym for Erasable Programmable Read-Only Memory.	A non-volatile memory that can be erased when the chip is exposed to ultraviolet light. After erasing, EPROM memory can be reprogrammed. Erasing requires physically removing the device and placing it under a UV light. Programming requires placing it into a programmer unit.

Escape lock	Building
A lock that can be opened (even when locked) from the inside by a single action without use of a key.	
Escutcheon	Locksmith
1) The cover for the keyhole of a mortise or similar lock. 2) A device which fits onto the door or window around a keyhole or handle. This may be for decorative purposes or to increase the security of that device.	
Espagnolette	Building
A locking bar which is fitted to the full height of the lock side of the door or window and carries locking pins or shoot bolts. It is usually operated by a central handle which extends the espagnolette upwards and downwards.	
Eurocylinder	Locksmith
A standardised size of lock cylinder such that cylinder mechanisms can be interchanged between locks.	Although the shape of the cylinder is standardised the security level can vary (see EN 1303). Additionally the cylinder can have different lengths and offsets to cater for various door sizes.
Exit delay	Alarm
The period of time that the user has to leave the building after setting the system.	Some systems will not set if this time is exceeded, others will generate an alarm condition.
Exit terminate button	Alarm
An exit terminate button is placed outside the final exit door and is used to set the alarm system when the premises are vacated.	The use of an exit terminate button, rather than an exit delay, is thought to reduce the incidence of false alarms.
Extension tube	CCTV
An extension tube may be used between the lens and the camera to reduce the minimum object distance.	Used for close up applications.

Face plate	Locksmith
The outer of a double fore end. A strip of metal fixed to the inner fore end, thus forming a double fore end.	The face plate is usually decorative and is often marked with the lock's certification.
False alarm	Alarm Vehicle
The generation of an alarm condition when an unauthorised intrusion has not taken place.	
False notches or false gating	Locksmith
1) The notches in the bar of the levers and the bolt stump of some locks to improve the security against attempted picking. 2) Cuts or notches which are put in some keys to give the appearance of greater intricacy although they serve no useful purpose.	
Fanlight	Building
The small window above a door or larger window.	Fanlights must be given the same level of security as other doors and windows. Access can be gained through apertures as little as 225mm wide for adults and even smaller for children. It is also common for criminals to open a poorly secured fanlight and then use this to access the locks on the main door or window.
Fastener	Locksmith
Any item such as a screw, bolt or rivet used for fixing hardware to a doors, windows etc.	
FB1 and FB2	Locksmith Building
FB1 and FB2 are two standardised locks to which the Fire Brigade have keys.	These locks are often used in areas of buildings where the Fire Brigade might need access such as plant rooms. Their use is in decline due to the availability of keys causing security concerns.

Feather spring	Locksmith
A spring made of flat strip bent approximately to a V shape with a loop or eye at the apex of the V to fit over a stump of the lock case.	
Fibre optic cable	Alarm CCTV
A cable which carries a signal by means of light transmission.	Fibre optic transmission is most often used for long range transmission as losses in the cable are lower than for electrical signals. The difficulty in tapping into a fibre optic cable means that they are often used for transmission of secure signals.
Final exit door	Locksmith
The exit door through which entry must later be obtained, and so cannot always be bolted. It is often the front entrance door.	The security of the final exit door is governed only by the lock alone, so a high specification lock should always be fitted here. See also Emergency Exit Door.

Finishes	Locksmith
AB Antique Brass AC Antique Copper ALI Aluminium AS Anodised Silver BB Bright Brass BE Bronze Enamel BK Black Blux Brasslux BMA Bronze Metal Antique BP Brass Plated BZP Bright Zinc Plated CHAM Champagne CP Chrome Plate DMG Dark Metallic Grey EB Electro Plated Brass ENB Enamelled Nickel Bronze EPS Epoxy Powdered Silver GALV Galvanised GE Gold Enamel GRY Grey HG Hammered Gold IBMA Imitation Bronze Metal Antique MS Metallic Silver NP Nickel Plated PA Polished Aluminium PB Polished Brass PG Polished Bronze (Gunmetal) PL Polished Lacquered Brass S Satin SA Satin Anodised SAA Satin Anodised Aluminium SALM Salmon SB Satin Brass SC Satin Chrome S/C Self Colour SCB Self Coloured Brass SCP Satin Chrome Plate SE Silver Enamel SNP Satin Nickel Plate SpB Sprayed Bronze SS Stainless Steel ST Steel SV Silver W White ZP Zinc Plated	The following abbreviations are commonly used for finishes for hardware. However, they do vary so it is advised that care is taken when using these.

Fire arm	Property
A rifle, handgun or shotgun as defined in the Firearms Act 1968.	
Fire check door	Building
A door designed to prevent the spread of fire within a building and enable the occupants to escape.	See also Fire Door. No modifications whatsoever should be made to any form of fire door by an unauthorised person.
Fire door	Building
Fire doors are of two types and should be referred to as either Fire Check Doors or Emergency Exit Doors.	No modifications whatsoever should be made to any form of fire door by an unauthorised person.
Fixing	Building
Any item such as a screw or bolt used for fastening a window, door etc to the building fabric.	
Flange back	CCTV
The flange back distance is the distance from the flange of the lens to its focal plane.	
Flat steel key	Locksmith
A key made from steel sheet or strip, without corrugations in the thickness, but having the edge(s) notched to provide the differs.	
Float glass	Building
See Annealed glass	
Flush bolt	Building
A bolt fitted to the first closing door of a double door set where the operating mechanism of the bolt is covered by the second closing door.	
Focal length	CCTV
The distance from the centre of the lens to the pickup device when an object viewed at infinity is in sharp focus.	The focal length of the lens gives an indication of the angle of view and the size of the image seen by the camera.

Foil tape	Alarm
A metal foil tape which is stuck to the inside of window glass. This forms part of an alarm circuit. When the glass is broken so is the foil tape thereby setting off the alarm.	Foil tapes can be damaged by rough use, cleaning etc.
Follower	Locksmith
That part of the latch bolt or spring bolt mechanism containing a square hole to admit the spindle (to which furniture is attached) which withdraws the spring bolt when turned. It has one or two projections or horns which act on the bolt foot.	
Force setting	Alarm
Setting a security system when some detectors are not functioning.	When force set the faulty detectors will not be functioning. On some systems, if the detector that was not functioning returns to service it will become active and capable of detecting an intrusion.
Fore end	Locksmith
That part of the lock or latch through which the bolt(s) protrude, and by which the lock or latch is often fixed to the door.	
Four-way lock	Locksmith
A rim lock so made that it can be fitted as either a right hand or left hand installation on doors opening either inwards or outwards, without alteration except possibly reversing the spring bolt.	
Frame store	CCTV
A system which captures and stores a single video frame.	This may be automated such that an alarm condition will automatically activate the storage of a frame.
Framed and ledged door	Building
This door construction has a framework which is strengthened by horizontal rails or ledges, to which the boards are attached.	See also Framed, Ledged and Braced Door Ledged and Braced Door Ledged Door Matchboarded Door

Framed, ledged and braced door	Building
A framed and ledged door with diagonal braces.	See also Framed and Ledged Door Ledged and Braced Door Ledged Door Matchboarded Door

Free standing safe	Safe
Safe whose protection against burglary depends only upon the materials and construction of its manufacture not those of its construction.	

French window	Building
See Casement door	

Frequency	RFID																		
The frequencies allocated for RFID applications differ between the EU and the USA. Additionally European countries have their own frequency allocations such that RFID frequencies are not straight forward. In the USA the minimum licensing frequency is 135 kHz so there was a favouring of the 125 kHz band for low frequency applications. For higher frequency applications an allocation of 902-928 MHz has been allocated. The 13.56 MHz band has also been allocated to harmonise with a European allocation. In the EU there has been an allocation of the 13.56 MHz band. Also the 420-460 MHz (often 433 MHz) band and also 868-869 MHz. This latter band is not the same as in the USA but is close enough to allow the same technologies to be used. In the USA the higher bands of 2.45 GHz and 5.6 GHz are also being developed.	<table border="0"> <thead> <tr> <th></th> <th>USA</th> <th>Europe</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Low</td> <td>125 kHz</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Medium</td> <td>13.56 MHz</td> <td>13.56MHz 420-460 (433) MHz</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>902-928 (915)MHz</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>High</td> <td>2.45 GHz</td> <td>868-869MHz</td> </tr> <tr> <td>•</td> <td>5.6 GHz</td> <td></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>		USA	Europe	Low	125 kHz		Medium	13.56 MHz	13.56MHz 420-460 (433) MHz		902-928 (915)MHz		High	2.45 GHz	868-869MHz	•	5.6 GHz	
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Friction stay	Building
The type of hinge found on most modern casement windows. The window is restrained in the open position by means of a friction device.	

Full rebated (lock or fore end)	Locksmith
A mortise lock or latch with a specially shaped fore end and striking plate to suit the shaped meeting edge of a single door which overlaps the door frame or a pair of doors which overlap each other - and such overlap or rebate is at the centre of the door thickness.	Such locks or latches are usually handed, and the hand must be stated when ordering together with the size of the rebate.
Furniture	Locksmith
The items of hardware fitted to the door other than the lock and hinges.	Also known as door furniture, lock or latch furniture, locksets or latch sets (when complete with lock or latch).
f-number	CCTV
See f-stop	
f-stop	CCTV
The f-stop is the measure of the aperture size of the camera lens. A high f-stop means a smaller aperture size. Where the ambient light is low then a large aperture size must be used to ensure sufficient light enters the camera.	A high light level means that a high f-stop (smaller aperture) can be used. This give a greater depth of field. Also known as f-number.
Gating	Locksmith
The slot in a lever through which the bolt stump passes or goes into during the travel of the bolt or runner.	
Ghost	CCTV
A ghost is a weak image offset to one side of the main image.	
Glass and Glazing Federation (GGF)	Organisation
Trade body responsible for: glazing (Building and vehicle), windows, doors, conservatories etc. The GGF has published a series of datasheets including those on window and door security.	The Glass and Glazing Federation 44-48 Borough High Street London SE1 1XB

Glass etching	Vehicle
The window glass (and possibly the headlights) may be etched with a unique code to deter theft of the vehicle. The code may be the registration number or part of the VIN number.	Etching may be by means of sand blasting or by chemical etching. It is essential that sufficient depth of etching is carried out to ensure that the marks cannot be polished out.
Glazing bead	Building
The strip of material nailed or clipped to the window to retain the glass in place.	If the glass is retained solely by an external clip-in glazing bead, then the bead and glass can easily be removed to gain access into the building.
GPS	Tracking
Global positioning system.	A GPS receiver will lock onto the signals from a network of twenty four satellites. Using the signals from at least four satellites it will then calculate its position.
Grabber	Alarm Vehicle
Electronic device which can be used to copy and playback radio frequency signals with the purpose of overcoming security systems.	
Grand master key	Locksmith
When a series of locks is divided into two or more sub-suites the key which controls, all the sub-suites (i.e. all the locks in the entire complex) is called the grand master key.	
Great grand master key	Locksmith
One higher in degree than a grand master key.	Only used in very special arrangements of master keyed locks.
Ground anchor	Property Vehicle
A device which is attached to the ground or other suitable location and provides a method of securing a vehicle or other item to it. This may be by means of an integral locking device or an additional locking device.	

GSM	RFID Tracking
Global System for Mobile Communication. The European digital radio system protocol.	
Guard	Locksmith
A guard is a fixed part inside a lock to prevent false keys from turning, or to prevent an instrument from reaching the bolt or levers.	Some guards are plates suitably shaped which the manufacturer can arrange variously in a number of locks to provide the differs.
Guidelines for Minimum Security for Domestic Property	Standard
This document, produced by the Master Locksmiths Association, gives guidance on the security elements that should be fitted to domestic property. It incorporates listings of approved security products.	
Guild of Architectural Ironmongers (GAI)	Organisation
The Guild exists to promote integrity and excellence in the business of architectural ironmongery.	The Guild of Architectural Ironmongers 8 Stepney Green London E1 3JU
Gunmetal	Locksmith
Another term for bronze.	N.B. To avoid confusion between Polished Brass (PB), Polished Bronze is symbolised by PG (Polished Gunmetal).
Handing (of doors)	Building
The European convention for handing of doors is that a left hand door is one with the lock on the left side when viewed on the closing face. i.e. A left hand door will open in a clockwise direction when viewed in plan.	

Handing (of locks)	Locksmith
Where a lock or latch cannot be used on a left and a right opening door then it is said to be handed. The handing will then be left or right.	The normal convention is to quote the side of the door that the lock is on when viewed from the inside on an outward opening door. (Or the outside on an inward opening door). Different manufacturers and suppliers may use different conventions when specifying handing so caution should always be taken when specifying handing.
Hard wired	Alarm
An alarm system in which the elements are wired together.	Typically six core wire is used for alarm systems. 2 cores are used to provide a power supply, two cores carry any alarm signal and two cores provide an anti tamper. Standardised use of the wires colour coding should not be made.
Hasp and staple	Locksmith
A fastening in two pieces for a door or box to be secured by a padlock. The hinged part is called the hasp which is fitted to the door or lid of a box and shuts over the staple, which is on the door frame or the body of the box.	For optimum security it is essential to use a hasp and staple with concealed fixing, i.e. the heads of the fixing screws are completely covered when the padlock is locked in position, as otherwise the fitment can easily be removed by withdrawing the screws.
Heat detector	Alarm
A detector that will generate an alarm condition dependant on temperature.	There are two main types: fixed detectors generate an alarm condition when a fixed temperature is attained; rate of rise detectors generate an alarm condition when the temperature change exceeds a pre set rate.
Hinge bolt	Building
A hinge bolt (or dogbolt) is a fixed projection on the hinge side of the door or window. The projection engages into a keep on the frame when the door or window is closed.	
Hold back stop	Locksmith
See Stop Knob.	

Hold open	Building
A device that holds a door in the open position.	
Hook bolt	Locksmith
A pivoted bolt, the head of which is shaped in the form of a hook. Such locks or latches are often fixed on sliding doors.	
Hook ward	Locksmith
The ward is fixed in the lock case formed as part of a circle like a wheel ward, but with a return or flange so that a cut in the key to fit would be L shape.	
Horizontal bars	CCTV
Horizontal bars are black and white bars over the entire picture. They are usually caused by interference from the electric mains frequency.	Also known as hum bars or venetian blinds.
Horizontal lock	Locksmith
A mortise or rim lock having the follower hole further from the fore end than the keyhole, but in the same horizontal plane.	Used when knob furniture is specified to prevent the barking of knuckles on the door frame.
IC	RFID
1) Integrated Circuit. 2) Inductive Coupling. The method of power and data transmission used for RFID systems.	
Imitation BMA	Locksmith
An electro deposited powder or lacquer finish on metal to simulate as nearly as possible the genuine Bronze Metal Antique finish. It is known as IBMA.	
Immobiliser	Vehicle
A device intended to prevent a vehicle being moved, powered by its own engine.	

Inclination detector	Vehicle
A detector which is activated when the vehicle is tilted such as when it towed away of jacked up to remove the wheels.	
Inertia switch	Alarm
These devices detect movement in the medium to which they are attached. They must all be firmly attached in order to detect a movement correctly and then the signals produced must be put into the control box via an analyser. The analyser processes the signal and decides whether it warrants an alarm, by taking into account the frequency, strength and duration of the signal.	There are two main types of inertia switch: One contains a piezo-electric element which generates a signal in response to vibration. The other contains a moving element which 'bounces' in response to vibration and thereby makes and breaks an electrical contact. Also known as a shock sensor.
Infra red beam	Alarm
Infra red beams were an early form of alarm detector and used an infra red transmitter and receiver. Breaking the infra red beam caused an alarm condition. See also Photo Electric Eye.	The single beam was easy to avoid once the transmitter and receiver had been spotted. This led to their installation in arrays to form 'walls'. They have largely been replaced by other types of detector.
Inspectorate of the Security Industry (ISI)	Organisation
The ISI is part of the National Security Inspectorate (NSI) and is a certification body for the manned security industry.	ISI Orchard House Victoria Square Droitwich WR9 8DS
International Association of Auto Theft Investigators (IAATI)	Organisation
An organisation formed to assist law enforcement, insurance industry, vehicle manufacturers, etc in the investigation, detection and prevention of vehicle crimes.	IAATI UK Office 7 Woodfield Rise Bushey Heath Hertfordshire WD2 3QR
Interpassing	Locksmith
See cross suiting.	

IR	Alarm Vehicle
IR is the acronym for infra red. Infra red is the non visible light next to red light in the spectrum which consists mainly of heat.	Infra red light may be used in several ways in alarm systems. Passive Infra Red (PIR) detectors use the body's emission of infra red radiation as a means of detection. Invisible infra red beams may be used as detection systems. Coded infra red pulses may be used to send signals between items of the alarm system, typically setting and unsetting signals.
Iris	CCTV
The device on the camera lens that can be adjusted to vary the amount of light falling on the camera pickup device depending on the ambient lighting conditions.	See also: Manual Iris Lens, Automatic Iris Lens, Electronic Iris.
ISO 10536	Standard
Contactless smart card standard.	
ISO 11784/85	Standard
Animal ID standard defining frequencies, baud rate, bit coding and data structures of the transponders used for animal identification.	
ISO 7816	Standard
Contact smart card standard	
Isolation control	Vehicle
A function which permits the user to isolate the audible warning device for convenience in the event of servicing the vehicle.	
Jamb	Locksmith
The vertical member of a door or window frame. In some areas the top rail of a door frame is referred to as the top jamb.	

Jamming	Alarm Vehicle
The technique of preventing a radio signal from reaching its receiver by sending a stronger signal on the same frequency.	Alarm systems use radio signals for several purposes. This might be to send an alarm signal from a detector to a control box, from a control box to a central station or to send a setting/unsetting signal from a key fob to the control box. By jamming the radio signal it is possible to prevent an alarm signal being generated. It is also possible to jam the setting signal, thus leaving the property or vehicle unprotected. Also known as Blocking

Keep or keeper	Locksmith
A term sometimes used, particularly in the North, for a staple or striking plate.	

Key biting machine or key cutting machine	Locksmith
A machine for cutting keys from key blanks.	

Key blank	Locksmith
A partly-made key, which has been shaped to enter the keyhole of a certain type of lock or latch, but of which the blade has not been finally shaped (i.e. notched or bitted) to operate the mechanism of the lock.	

Key change	Locksmith
See Differ	

Key fob	Alarm Vehicle
Traditionally a key fob was simply a tag on a key ring for identification purposes. Now the term has come to be identified with the small transmitters on a key ring used to set and unset alarms.	

Key steps or key depths	Locksmith
This term usually means the bolt step and lever steps of a key for a lever lock.	

Keycode	General
The code transmitted by, or read from an electronic key.	
Keyed alike	Locksmith
See Alike Change	
Key	General
A small removable device for operating its own lock or system.	
Keyhole	Locksmith
The hole into which the key enters to operate the lock or latch. It is often referred to as the keyway, particularly in a cylinder mechanism	
Keyless combination lock	Locksmith
See Combination Lock.	
Keyless entry	Vehicle
The system of unlocking the vehicle using a key fob transmitter or similar.	See Remote Arming
Keypad	Alarm Vehicle
A multiple action input key permitting the entry of an alpha-numeric code.	
Keyway	Locksmith
See Keyhole	
Laminated glass	Building Vehicle
Laminated glass consists of thin layers of glass bonded to interlayers of transparent plastic (Usually poly vinyl burate - PVB).	When the glass is attacked the glass layers fracture but remain held in place by the interlayers. Thus laminated glass offers both enhanced security and safety over annealed glass. Typical laminated glass found in domestic buildings consists of one interlayer with a total thickness of 6.4mm. However, the number of layers and thickness can be increased to provide enhanced security such that bullet proof glass can be obtained.

Latch bolt	Locksmith
See Spring bolt	
Latch set furniture or latch furniture	Locksmith
A latch set, minus the latch.	
Latch set	Locksmith
A latch complete with necessary furniture including a spindle, ready for fixing to the door	
Latch	General
A device which holds a door or window shut but can be released without the use of a key.	
LED	Alarm Vehicle
Acronym for light emitting diode. A small light which may indicate the alarm status.	
Ledged and braced door	Building
A ledged door with diagonal braces.	See also Framed, Ledged and Braced Door Framed and Ledged Door Ledged Door Matchboarded Door
Ledged door	Building
A ledged door is the most basic form of construction where vertical boards are fastened to horizontal rails or ledges.	See also Framed, Ledged and Braced Door Framed and Ledged Door Ledged and Braced Door Matchboarded Door
Lever and warded mechanism	Locksmith
The lever mechanism with the addition of wards, usually for providing a greater number of differs.	The addition of wards does not significantly increase the security of a lock.

Lever handle	Locksmith
A piece of lock or latch furniture, usually on a rose or plate, for use as an alternative to a knob for operating the spring bolt of a lock or latch.	All British lever handles are spring-loaded to ensure the return to horizontal after use, but Continental lever handles are not usually spring-loaded and thus when used with British locks or latches, sometimes tend to sag below the horizontal after a comparatively short period of use, unless additional springing is included in the lock action.

Lever mechanism	Locksmith
A lock mechanism having, as its principle feature, one or more levers.	

Lever pivot	Locksmith
The stump in a lock on which the levers swing.	

Lever	Locksmith
A flat shaped movable detailer in a lock, usually for the purpose of providing security and differs. The levers in a lock have to be actually moved by the key to operate the lock. The belly of the lever is cut away to various depths to provide different combinations.	A lever will have pockets and gates through which the bolt stump moves during unlocking.

Light (window)	Building
A part of a window set that provides support for, and includes the glazing.	A window light may be a fixed or opening light.

Limpet alarm	Alarm
A limpet alarm is a detector which can be magnetically fitted to safes, vending machines etc. Typically they have shock sensors which will detect attacks on the item as well as attempts to remove the limpet alarm.	

Line grabbing	Alarm
Early monitored alarm systems could be vulnerable to incoming calls blocking an alarm call on their telephone line. Modern alarm systems use line grabbing technology which enables the control box to terminate any calls on the line to enable it to make an alarm call.	
Link plate	Locksmith
The complementary member of box, desk and other locks which is fixed to the lid or some part of a cabinet, for example, and has one or more projecting links to enter the lock and engage the bolt.	
Lip (of striking plate)	Locksmith
The projection on one side of a striking plate on the surface of which the spring bolt of the lock or latch first strikes when the door is closed. It is usually radiused or bevelled to guide the spring bolt.	
Live bolt	Locksmith
See Spring bolt	
Local audible alarm	Alarm
The majority of alarm systems will be fitted with a local audible alarm or Self Actuating Bell (SAB). This acts as a deterrent to the thief and a warning to the occupier.	Alarms no longer contain bells but piezo-electric sounders. These provide a louder sound for less energy drain on the battery. The casings are tamper resistant and are usually designed to be a visual deterrent. Dummy bell boxes are also available for greater visibility. Local audible alarms contain their own power source so that the alarm will continue to sound should its cable be cut.

Lock mechanism	Locksmith
The arrangement of the component parts and the manner in which they perform to achieve the required security and differing when operated by its key. Main mechanisms include: (i) pin-tumbler, (ii) lever, (iii) discs, (iv) wards. There are other specialised mechanisms, e.g. Butters or Bramah.	
Lock set furniture or lock furniture	Locksmith
A lock set, minus the lock.	
Lock set	Locksmith
A lock complete with necessary furniture ready for fixing to the door	
Lockable bolt	Building
See Security Bolt.	
Lock	General
A lock is any form of device intended to secure an item in such a way as to prevent operation without the key or combination.	
Locking latch	Locksmith
A latch with a bevelled spring bolt or roller bolt which is capable of being locked or secured, usually by key.	
Locking plate	Locksmith
See Striking Plate	
London strip	Locksmith
A steel bar fitted to the inside face of a door frame, shaped to accommodate the staple or striker of a rim latch lock.	
Long shackle (LS)	Locksmith
A padlock shackle with a greater amount of clearance than the normal standard shackle.	These are usually available in a variety of sizes to meet the users' needs.

Loss Prevention Certification Board (LPCB)	Organisation
The LPCB was set up by the Association of British Insurers to evaluate building products for fire and security protection. They are now part of the Building Research Establishment.	Loss Prevention Certification Board Building Research Establishment Garston Watford WD2 7JR
Lubrication	Locksmith
All hardware should be lubricated at the correct intervals. Usually at least once per year. A normal (3 in 1) oil is suitable for most hardware. However, oil must not be used to lubricate pin-tumbler cylinders, only graphite lubricant should be used for this mechanism.	
Lux	CCTV
The SI unit for the density of light.	This is used to define the sensitivity of camera pickup devices.
Magnetic contacts	Alarm
A very common device in alarm systems where a reed switch is held closed by a magnet when the door or window is closed. Opening the door or window moves the magnet and the reed switch opens the circuit and the alarm is activated. Heavy duty contacts are used on roller shutters, etc.	Different types of magnetic contacts allow for different air gaps so that they can be used for most types of door or window.
Manual iris lens	CCTV
A lens with a manual adjustment to set the iris opening (f stop) in one position.	Can only be used where the lighting conditions are stable.
Master keyed (locks or latches)	Locksmith
A lock or latch capable of being operated by a master key as well as its own servant key.	
Master key	Locksmith
A key which will open every lock in a master keyed suite.	

Master Locksmiths Association	Organisation
The UK trade body for locksmiths, key cutters, lock manufacturers and suppliers.	The Master Locksmiths Association 5D Great Central Way Woodford Halse Daventry Northants NN11 3PZ
Master pins	Locksmith
Small pins sometimes called wafers to build up chamber pin loading in pin tumbler master keyed cylinders.	
Matchboarded door	Building
A door of which the face is made up of a series of vertical planks or matchboards.	A matchboarded door may be Framed, Ledged or Braced. See also Framed, Ledged and Braced Door Framed and Ledged Door Ledged and Braced Door Ledged Door
Matrix switcher	CCTV
A matrix switcher is a device which can take a number of camera inputs and send them to a series of outputs.	
Mechanical focus (back-focus)	CCTV
The mechanical focus is the aligning of the pickup device with the focal point of the lens.	Also known as back focus.
Mechanical immobiliser	Vehicle
An immobiliser, the principal functions of which are provided by mechanical means and provides mechanical isolation or blocking of a vehicle operating system or systems.	
Medical alert	Alarm
Some alarm systems have the facility for a medical alert. When the user presses a medical alert button or pendant a signal will be sent to the central station requesting medical assistance.	

Memory card	RFID
A chip card which has a read/ write memory with a level of security.	Often used for applications such as prepay telephone cards, loyalty cards etc.
Meurtriére	Building
An opening in the roof of a passage through which boiling oil or similar substances can be poured on to intruders below. Also known as a murder hole.	
Microwave detector	Alarm Vehicle
A microwave detector is a volumetric sensor which uses microwave energy to register changes in its monitored space.	Microwave detectors are not affected by air movements. However, the penetrating nature of microwaves can cause them to detect changes through thin walls etc. They may be used as part of a Dual Technology Device.
Microwave fence	Alarm
A microwave fence consists of a separate microwave transmitter and receiver placed some distance apart. This enables a perimeter to be monitored.	
Microwave Transmission	CCTV
Video signals may be sent using a digital microwave signal.	Microwave transmission requires a line of sight between the transmitter and receiver.
Minimum object distance (MOD)	CCTV
The minimum object distance is the distance to the nearest point that a camera can focus.	The minimum object distance is dependant on the type of lens and is measured from the front of the lens to the object.
Monitor zone	Alarm
See Chime Zone	
Monitored system	Alarm
An alarm system which communicates an alarm condition or other status signals to a Central Station.	

Monochrome	CCTV
Black and white (camera or monitor).	
Mortise bolt	Building
A bolt where its body is fitted into a hole (or mortise) cut into the edge of the door or window.	
Mortise lock	Building
A lock where its body is fitted into a hole (or mortise) cut into the edge of the door or window.	
Mortise	Locksmith
A hole cut into the thickness of one edge of a door to receive a mortise lock or latch.	
Motion detection	CCTV
See Video Motion Detection	
Motor Industry Repair Research Centre (MIRRC)	Organisation
MIRRC was set up to evaluate repairs to crash damaged vehicles by the Association of British Insurers. They also carry out work evaluating the security of vehicles. They are more commonly known as 'Thatcham' from their location.	MIRRC Colthorp Way Thatcham Berkshire RG19 4NR
Movement detection	Alarm Vehicle
A function of the security system which can detect and signal movement of a body into, or within, the protected area.	
Mullion	Building
A fixed vertical member between window lights.	

Multicore cable	Alarm
Alarm systems are usually wired with six core cable. One pair carries the alarm signal, one pair the power supply and the third is for anti tamper.	The cutting of any of the wires will cause an alarm condition with most sensors. Shorting together the signal wires will bypass the sensor for many sensors. For this reason standardised use of the wires' colour codes should not be made.
Multiplexer	CCTV
A multiplexer allows the user to look at multiple images on one screen or record multiple images.	
Multipoint bolt	Building
A multipoint bolt system is one which allows several bolts to be withdrawn with one action.	This usually used on emergency exits where a high level of security is required to be combined with rapid egress.
Multipoint lock	Locksmith
A lock in which two or more bolts are thrown by means of a single action.	
Mushroom driver	Locksmith
A driver in the cylinder mechanism which is tapered and has a mushroom shaped head.	These provide a very effective anti-pick element, as they cannot be lifted by a lock-pick or similar item. When manipulated, the mushroom drivers tilt and wedge the plug at the line of intersection. For example, all Yale cylinder rim, cylinder mortise locks and cylinder padlocks have mushroom drivers incorporated in the mechanism.
NACOSS National Approval Council for Security Systems	Organisation
NACOSS is part of the National Security Inspectorate (NSI) and approves companies in the electronic security industry in the British Isles. This includes Intruder Alarms, CCTV and Access Control Systems.	NACOSS Queensgate House 14 Cookham Road Maidenhead Berkshire SL6 8AJ

Narrow case lock or latch	Locksmith
A rim lock or latch, the case of which is made especially narrow, usually less than 67mm wide, for fixing to the narrow stile of a panelled or flush door.	
National House Building Council (NHBC)	Organisation
The organisation responsible for the building standards of new houses in the UK.	
ND (neutral density) filter	CCTV
A filter that attenuates light equally over the whole visible spectrum.	
Nib ward	Locksmith
The simplest form of ward made by pressing inwards a portion of the metal of the case or cap of the lock. A key to suit only requires a plain slot in the bit.	
Night safe	Safe
A deposit system which provides a secure receiving service for customers to deposit valuables.	
Night vent or ventilation position	Building
A position in which the door or window can be locked whilst slightly ajar.	This usually offers only limited security.
Nightlatch	Locksmith
A lock which automatically locks when the door is shut. Manually operated from the inside and by a key from the outside. Usually provided with a stop knob to hold the bolt retracted and to deadlock the bolt when shot in the closed position, even against the action of the key.	A nightlatch will usually offer only limited security.
Noise	CCTV
Noise is any form of spurious signal which affects the video signal.	

Nozzle	Locksmith
A circular boss or ferrule containing the keyhole on some cabinet locks, including locker locks. Correctly relating to lever cabinet locks.	
OEM	Vehicle
Original Equipment Manufacturer.	
One way screw	Building
See Clutch Headed Screw	
One-sided lock (single-entry)	Locksmith
A lock which has a keyhole on only one side, so that it can be operated by key from one side, usually outside.	Nearly all cabinet locks and all padlocks are examples. Some high quality cylinder mortise locks are one-sided.
One-way action	Locksmith
An action where the follower will turn only one way.	
Open shackle padlock	Locksmith
A padlock in which the bulk of the shackle is unprotected by the padlock body.	The access to the shackle means that the padlock is more versatile than some closed shackle padlocks. However, access to the shackle means that it can be attacked by saws and bolt croppers.
Original equipment (OE)	Vehicle
Vehicle equipment installed during original vehicle production.	
OTP	RFID
One Time Programmable.	OTP memory can be programmed once and cannot be deleted thereafter, becoming like a ROM.
Overt marking	Property Vehicle
Overt marking systems are systems which are designed to be readily visible and readable.	Overt systems are primarily a deterrent to theft.

Overwiring	Alarm Vehicle
An attack on an alarm system which involves the manipulation of electrical wiring to bypass or short circuit components, and which can include the application of simple signals to the wiring.	
Padbar	Building
A steel bar spanning the full width of the opening of a door with supporting brackets or staples fixed to the frame and secured by a padlock.	Often purpose made to fit the door.
Padbolt	Building
A barrel or tower bolt which is locked by means of a padlock.	
Padlock	Locksmith
A comparatively small removable and portable locking device, usually key operated on one side only. The locking member is a hinged, sliding or swivelled shackle which locks into the padlock body.	See BS EN 12320. Usually used with a Hasp and Staple, Padbolt or Padbar.
Paknet	Alarm
A type of signalling that uses radio transmission to relay a signal from an alarmed premises to a central station.	Used in remote areas where telephone lines are vulnerable and also as a backup in higher security installations.
Panel grilles	Locksmith
Steel grilles made to size with various infills of expanded diamond mesh, square weld mesh or fancy infills, usually fitted internally.	
Panelled door	Building
A door which is constructed from a frame infilled with panels of wood or glass.	
Panic bar	Building
A panic bar is a bar on the inside of an emergency exit door which unlocks it when the bar is pressed.	No modifications whatsoever should be made to any form of emergency exit door by an unauthorised person.

Panic button	Alarm
See Deliberately Operated Device	
Pan	Locksmith
The removable mechanism chamber attached to the inside face of a safe door.	
Parallel interface	RFID
A data channel that transfers data several bits at a time down multiple wires.	Parallel interfaces require a greater number of connection wires than serial interfaces but have a greater data transfer speed.
Partition	Alarm
Some alarm systems allow Zones or Detectors to be grouped into partitions. Each partition can then be programmed or set separately.	
PAS 11	Standard
See BS 7950	
PAS 20	Standard
Specification for audible personal attack alarms	
PAS 24	Standard
Enhanced security performance requirements for door assemblies	The British Standard for security of door sets. It has a companion standard (PAS 23) covering the performance of door sets for other attributes such as durability, weather resistance etc.
Passing (or to pass)	Locksmith
Any key which operates a lock is said to pass the lock.	
Passive arming	Vehicle
See Passive Setting.	

Passive infra red detector (PIR)	Alarm
A volumetric alarm detector which monitors its protected area using infra red energy.	Everyone emits infra red (heat) energy. This type of detector has a heat sensor mounted behind a series of lenses. As the intruder moves in front of the detector the amount of heat focused on the sensor varies due to the lenses. This variation in heat generates the alarm condition. The coverage area of the detector can be varied by varying the lenses. Early PIRs were sensitive to visible light such as sunlight and car headlights so needed to be focused away from windows. However, new technology has reduced this requirement.

Passive RFID	RFID
A passive RFID transponder does not contain a power source. A Passive RFID system receives energy by RF transmission from the read/write unit.	Passive RFID transponders typically have a shorter range than an active RFID transponder but are maintenance free and can thus be totally environmentally sealed.

Passive setting	Alarm Vehicle
Automatic setting of the security system without the need for conscious or deliberate actions by the user.	Useful in situations where the setting signal may be blocked or jammed. Also used in vehicles to automatically set alarms/immobilisers without need for user intervention.

Patio door	Building
A domestic door set consisting of two or more sliding panels usually mostly glazed.	

Peg ward	Locksmith
A combination of wards resembling a sash ward but fixed by pegs to the lock case.	

Perimeter detection	Alarm Vehicle
A function of a security system which shall detect access through the perimeter of a protected area.	A perimeter system is often used when buildings are occupied. A perimeter system will provide protection to a home and its occupants whilst they are asleep at night.

Personal attack button	Alarm Vehicle
See Deliberately Operated Device	

Pet sensor	Alarm
A pet sensor is an alarm detector which is designed not to react to the presence of pets.	There are a variety of technologies used in pet sensors which are usually a form of Passive Infra Red Detector. Some simply monitor an area which is unlikely to be accessed by pets but will be accessed by an intruder such as a level more than 1200mm high. Others work on the size of the detected object and assume anything below a certain size is a pet. Others use more advanced technology by analysing the shape of the object. All have their own advantages and disadvantages and the detector appropriate for the situation should be used.

Photo electric eye	Alarm
A photo electric eye is an electronic device which reacts to a change in the light falling on it. In alarm usage it is usually used in conjunction with a light beam directed at the eye. When the beam is broken the eye triggers an alarm condition. Often the light beam is infra red rather than visible light. See also Infra Red Beam.	The single beam is easy to avoid once the transmitter and eye have been spotted. This led to their installation in arrays to form 'walls'. They have largely been replaced by other types of detector.

Pin key	Locksmith
A key with solid shank (usually circular) and a projecting blade at one end and a bow at the other.	

Pin tumbler mechanism	Locksmith
The mechanism incorporated in the cylinder or housing of a cylinder pin tumbler lock usually referred to as a cylinder lock.	
Pinhole lens	CCTV
A lens which has a small opening so that it can be easily concealed.	
Pins	Locksmith
Usually the lower of each pair of tumblers in the pin tumbler cylinder mechanism. The upper tumblers are known as drivers.	
Pinswitch	Vehicle
A small electrical switch designed to be fitted to vehicle doors etc.	
Pipe key	Locksmith
A key with a flat bit and a hollow circular shank to locate on the Drill Pin. Used only on one-sided locks. Also called a Barrel Key.	
PIR	Alarm
See Passive Infra Red Detector	
Plug	Locksmith
The part of the pin tumbler cylinder mechanism or disc tumbler cylinder mechanism into which the key enters and which the key turns. It houses the pins of a pin tumbler cylinder mechanism or the discs and springs of a disc tumbler cylinder mechanism.	Also known as the Barrel See also Cylinder
Pocket	Locksmith
The name of each segmental space in a lever which, while surrounding the bolt stump, allows the lever to rise and fall whether the lock bolt is in or out.	

Police Scientific Development Branch (PSDB)	Organisation
The Police and Home Office organisation for developing technologies for police use.	Sandridge St Albans Hertfordshire AL4 9HQ
Postal handle	Building
A letter plate with a pull handle.	
Postal knocker	Building
A letter plate with a pull handle, the latter specially adapted and used as a knocker.	
Power on arming	Vehicle
If an alarm reverts to the set state when the power supply is removed and returned to the alarm, it is said to have power on arming.	
Pressure mats	Alarm
Thin mats sensitive to pressure which can be placed under carpets to detect an intruder walking on them.	
Pre-position lens	CCTV
A pre-position lens is a zoom lens which has a number of user definable pre set positions such that the user can rapidly view different areas without having to manually adjust the zoom and focus.	
Projection	Locksmith
The distance that the tip of the bolt or latch projects from the fore end of the lock measured in the direction of throw.	See also Throw and Engagement.
Proximity key	Alarm Vehicle
An electronic key that can be used only at short range (normally less than 100mm) from the security system receiving device with no physical interconnection.	

PTZ	CCTV
Acronym for pan, tilt, zoom.	
Rack bolt	Locksmith
A bolt, usually a door bolt, the mechanism of which is toothed so that it may be operated by a pinion.	
Radial pin tumbler lock (RPT)	Locksmith
The RPT lock has its pins and drivers set parallel in a circular pattern. The key is tubular in form and has notches cut from the end to depress the pins to the correct position to allow the lock to open.	RPT locks may have as few as 4 pins or up to 11 pins or more. The most common variety has 7 pins. The diameter of the lock and key may also be varied. Easy to use lockpicks are cheaply and readily available for the more common sizes.
Radiused fore end	Locksmith
A lock fore end which is shaped radially, for use on one of a pair of swing doors.	
Ram raid protection	Building
Ram raid protection is the term used for a variety of technologies which prevent a building being impacted by a vehicle.	The ideal ram raid protection is designed in at the architectural stage of the building. This may consist of steps, moats or barriers. After the premises are constructed options are more limited and can include concrete barriers and steel posts.
RAM	RFID
Acronym for Random Access Memory.	A transponder or card memory that stores information which can be readily written or read.
Range finder	CCTV
A range finder is a device to determine what the camera image will look like. The user looks through the range finder and adjusts the image. The settings of the range finder will then give the focal length of the lens required to give that image.	
Read only	RFID
Transponders that have a code that cannot be altered.	

Read/write unit	RFID
See Base Station	
Read/write	RFID
Transponders that have a code that can be changed by the user or system.	
Rebated (lock or latch)	Locksmith
A mortise lock or latch with a fore end specially shaped to correspond with the shaped meeting edge of the door for which it is intended. See Full Rebated.	
Rebate	Locksmith
The measurement of the stepped reduction or recess in the fore end of a rebated lock.	
Redcare	Alarm
Redcare is a system for continuously monitoring a telephone line used for alarm purposes.	Redcare transmits a signal along the telephone line (even when it is in use). Should the line be cut, this is reported to the central station to enable the appropriate action to be taken.
Release	Locksmith
A striker which can be activated electronically to remotely release a door.	Also known as an electric striker
Relocking device (relocker)	Safe
A locking mechanism independent of any key operations, mounted remotely within a safe mechanism so as to relock the boltwork under certain forced attacks.	
Remote arming	Alarm Vehicle
The use of a key fob (IR or RF) transmitter to arm the alarm system.	See Keyless Entry
Remote program	Alarm
The ability to access the program in the control box and make changes by telephone link or similar.	

Repeat differs	Locksmith
That supply of differs which have been issued previously. This is usually associated with master keyed suites and where a replacement lock is required to have the same differ as the original.	
Resolution	CCTV
The capacity of the CCTV system to see detail.	The resolution of the system may be due to the type of camera or the monitor or recording device.
Retained image	CCTV
A retained image occurs where there has been a stationary light source. Due to the construction of the pickup device there may be a tendency for the image to remain despite the light source being removed.	Also known as image burn.
Retaining ring	Locksmith
1) Usually a ring made of spring material which can be sprung open or closed for getting into position in order to retain some part or parts. 2) a circlip.	
Reversed bolt (RB)	Locksmith
A spring bolt which has been turned round in its case to suit a door opening outwards instead of inwards.	
RF	Alarm
Radio Frequency. Used to describe wireless transmission of signals.	
RFID	RFID
Acronym for Radio Frequency Identification.	A technology that uses RF communication to identify items by means of a transponder located upon them.
RF	RFID
Acronym for Radio Frequency.	

Rigid grilles	Locksmith
Heavy duty, welded construction, rod or bar grilles, usually fitted externally or internally to the fabric of a building.	
Rim cylinder	Locksmith
This relates to a pack which usually comprises the cylinder with plug, rose, connecting bar, two connecting screws and two keys.	
Rim lock or latch	Locksmith
A lock or latch that is surface mounted on the inside face of the door or window.	
Ringer	Vehicle
A stolen vehicle disguised with the identity of another legitimate vehicle which has been destroyed.	
Roll	CCTV
Roll is the movement of the picture up or down the monitor screen. This is caused by a loss of the vertical sync signal.	
Roller bolt	Locksmith
A spring bolt made in the form of a roller, instead of being bevelled.	It is recommended for more silent and easier closing of a door. It does not need reversing to alter the hand.
Rolling code	Alarm Vehicle
Where a RF or IR signal is transmitted between a key fob or a detector this may be recorded and played back to overcome the system. A system using a rolling code means that the transmitted signal is changed each time it is broadcast thus preventing this happening.	Also known as Code Hopping
ROM	RFID
Acronym for read only memory.	A transponder or card memory which stores information which may be read but cannot be deleted. Information is stored during manufacture.

Rose	Locksmith
<p>1) A cylinder rose or ring in cylinder locks or latches. It is a shaped metal disc which surrounds the outer face of the cylinder</p> <p>2) In door furniture, it is the small plate to which the lever handle or knob is affixed and which is screwed to the door surface.</p>	
Rounded fore end	Locksmith
A fore end with rounded ends. It is used when the mortise for a fore end is cut out by router, usually by machined manufacture of wood or metal doors.	
Safe lock	Locksmith
A general term for the many varieties of key operated and other locks for safes.	
Safe	Safe
Storage unit which protects its contents against burglary and when closed has at least one internal side less than 1m in length.	European Standards definition.
Sash lock	Locksmith
See Upright lock	
Sash ward	Locksmith
Used in rim and mortise locks, alone or in conjunction with levers for the purpose of obtaining or increasing the differs. Formed pieces of concentric metal are affixed around the inside of the keyhole. It also serves as a keyhole bush. The key passes over these wards to operate the bolt.	Little security is given when sash wards are used by themselves. See Skeleton keys.

Sash window	Building
This type of window consists of two glazed lights or sashes, vertically sliding in channels. These are balanced with a cord and balance weights or by balance springs. The outer sash is on the outside of the window. The inner and outer sashes overlap at the centre allowing the window to be secured by joining the two sashes together with fastening devices.	
Scanner	Alarm Vehicle
Device that can scan radio frequencies to detect a radio signal from an alarm system or setting device.	
Scotch spring lock	Locksmith
A two-bolt rim lock with the reversible spring bolt above or below the horizontal plane of the follower. The scotch spring tapers and its thicker end is fastened to the lock case, the thinner end bears on a pivoted arm fixed to the end of the bolt. There is usually a cut-out in the cover to reveal the end of the spring.	
Scotch tie	Building
See Cross garnet hinge	
Secured by Design	Organisation
Secured by Design is an organisation run by ACPO CPI Ltd with the role of improving the security standards of buildings.	ACPO Crime Prevention Initiatives Ltd 25, Victoria Street London SW1H 0EX
Security bolt	Building
A barrel bolt or mortise bolt which can only be withdrawn by the use of a key.	Also known as a Lockable Bolt
Security post	Vehicle
A device which when installed will prevent theft of a vehicle by blocking its exit route.	

Security screw	Building
A screw designed so that it either cannot be removed when fixed or which requires a restricted access tool to remove it.	See also Clutch Headed Screw
Security Systems and Alarms Inspection Board (SSAIB)	Organisation
The SSAIB provides an inspection and certification of companies that design, install and maintain security systems.	SSAIB 6 Northumberland Place North Shields Tyne and Wear NE30 1QP
Seismic detector	Alarm
A device designed to detect the vibrations caused when breaking glass, wood or other materials.	
Self actuating bell (SAB)	Alarm
See Local Audible Alarm	
Sensor	Alarm Vehicle
See Detector	
Serial interface	RFID
A data channel that transfers data sequentially, one bit at a time.	Serial interfaces require fewer connection wires than parallel interfaces but at a cost in data transfer speed.
Servant key	Locksmith
The key that opens one particular lock usually in a master keyed suite.	Also known as a Change Key
Set screw	Locksmith
One which tightens or fastens another part after assembly or adjustment.	
Set	Alarm Vehicle
The state of an alarm system whereby it can detect and alert an intrusion.	Also known as Armed.

Setting	Alarm Vehicle
The process of putting the alarm system in a mode where it can detect and report intrusion.	Also known as Arming.
Shackle	Locksmith
The hinged, sliding or swivelling loop shaped member of a padlock. The heel of the shackle remains always in the padlock body and the toe of the shackle comes out when unlocked.	A double locking padlock gives the greatest security against forcing because there are two separate bolts locking outwards in opposite directions, one into a niche in the heel of the shackle, and the other into the toe of the shackle. This is sometimes called heel and toe locking.
Shank (of key)	Locksmith
The part of a pin or pipe key between the bow and the end, excluding the blade.	
Shear line	Locksmith
The term is used to denote the line of the circumference of the plug in the bore of a pin tumbler cylinder.	
Shock detector	Alarm
See seismic detector.	
Shock sensor	Alarm Vehicle
See Inertia Switch	
Shoot bolt	Locksmith
Usually fitted to doors in pairs, the shoot bolts are thrown into the head and the sill by a central locking action.	Often fitted as part of a multipoint lock system.
Shoot	Locksmith
1) The distance a spring bolt moves under the action of its spring or key. Shoot applies more particularly to spring bolts, throw being a better word for dead bolts. 2) The sliding part of a door bolt.	

Shoulder of key	Locksmith
See Ear of Key	
Shoulder (or bow stop)	Locksmith
The projection or ear or shape that controls the point at which a cylinder or disk tumbler comes to rest when fully inserted into the lock. It is the datum point from which spacing cuts are measured.	
Shutter lock	Locksmith
See Sliding Shackle Padlock	
Side bar	Locksmith
This is in addition to the existing pin or disc mechanism, and is a bar usually along the length of the mechanism and does not allow rotation until the mechanism is correctly lifted and can be directly controlled by the key.	
Side wards	Locksmith
Notches cut into the sides of bitted keys so fashioned to enable the key to turn.	
Signal to noise ratio	CCTV
The ratio between the desired video signal and noise.	The higher the ratio the better the received video signal will be.
Silent alarm	Alarm
A system where the alarm signal is remote from the activated detector.	Often used in conjunction with a deliberately operated device.
SIM card	RFID
Acronym for Subscriber Identity Module.	A smart card used in mobile phones to identify the subscriber.
Single bit	RFID
A single bit transponder does not have its own unique code but simply transmits as 'on' or 'off' (1 or 0).	Single bit transponders are typically used as anti-shoplifting devices. The transponder is set at 'on' until it is turned 'off' at the point of sale. The base unit positioned at the shop exit will sound an alert whenever a transponder switched to 'on' is taken out of the shop.

Single-entry lock	Locksmith
See One Sided Lock	
Skeleton key	Locksmith
A key, the blade of which has been cut away sufficiently to allow the blade to pass any wards or obstructions within the lock and throw or retract the bolt.	There is no universal skeleton key. One has to be prepared for each series of warded locks. Skeleton keys cannot be made for lever and cylinder lock mechanisms.
Skimming	RFID
Skimming is the technique of copying the magnetic stripe on a customer's credit or debit card by swiping it through a card reader.	This information can then be used to make counterfeit cards.
Slam Lock	Locksmith
A type of lock that self locks when the door is closed and requires a key to unlock.	See also Till Lock
Sliding grilles	Locksmith
Steel sliding grille gates in single or double leaf, running on top and bottom guide tracks, locked by padlock or integral lock.	
Sliding lever	Locksmith
A lever which slides between or on guides instead of swinging on a pivot..	
Sliding shackle padlock	Locksmith
A padlock in which the shackle move into place by sliding rather than the traditional rotary action.	Also known as a Shutter Lock
Smart card	RFID
A chip card that has a microcontroller based IC embedded in it.	A smart card can store various data in non-volatile memory. Because there is computer architecture at the heart of these card ICs it is also possible to build in very high levels of computing power and security.

Smoke detector	Alarm
A device that detects the presence of smoke (usually carbon smoke). These may be connected to the alarm system for local or remote fire warnings.	The two main types are ionisation and photoelectric detectors.
SN Ratio	CCTV
See Signal to Noise Ratio	
Snib	Locksmith
See Stop knob	
Software lock immobilisation	Vehicle
Immobilisation of vehicle systems achieved by the direct input of electronic codes to original equipment vehicle control units.	
Sold Secure	Organisation
Sold Secure was set up by the British Police and Government to test and approve security devices. It is now run by the Master Locksmiths Association.	Sold Secure 5C Great Central Way Woodford Halse Daventry Northants UK NN11 3PZ email: admin@soldsecure.com
Spacer	Locksmith
A distance piece of thin metal placed between the levers of some locks.	
Spacing	Locksmith
The term used to describe the horizontal distances across a key blade or bit.	
Spindle	Locksmith
That part of the door furniture usually of square section which passes through the follower hole and is fitted to the knobs or lever handles to operate the spring bolt.	

Spiral spring	Locksmith
1) A spring made of wire to approximately V shape like a feather spring; with one or more coils formed at the apex of the V to fit over a stump in the lock case. 2) A coil spring.	
Split follower	Locksmith
See Divided Follower	
Spoon	Locksmith
The flattened end of a padlock shackle containing the bolt hole or slot which the bolt enters.	
Spring bolt	Locksmith
Sometimes called the latch bolt or live bolt. A bolt having the outer edge shaped by bevelling of the vertical face. It is a bolt which may be pushed back into the lock-case and will return to the extended position without mechanical assistance.	
Spring latch	Locksmith
A latch with one bevelled spring bolt which locks the door when shut. It is opened by key from the outside and by knob from inside.	
Spring shackle padlock	Locksmith
A padlock, the shackle of which springs open when unlocked, and is locked by snapping to.	
Spring-loaded	Locksmith
Moved under the control of, or against the pull of, a spring fixed at one end.	
SS 101	Standard
Sold Secure Specification for Mechanical Security Systems for Motorbikes.	

SS 102	Standard
Sold Secure Specification for Mechanical Security Systems for Motor Vehicles.	
SS 103	Standard
Sold Secure Specification for Mechanical Security Systems for Caravans.	
SS 104	Standard
Sold Secure Specification for Mechanical Security Systems for Pedal Cycles.	
SS 105	Standard
Sold Secure Specification for Ground Anchors.	
SS 106	Standard
Sold Secure Specification for Mechanical Security Systems for Motor Scooters.	
SS 107	Standard
Sold Secure Specification for Mechanical Locks for Motor Vehicles.	
SS 108	Standard
Sold Secure Specification for Mechanical Security Systems for Construction Industrial and Agricultural Equipment and Associated Trailers.	
SS 109	Standard
Sold Secure Specification for Locking Wheel Nuts.	
SS 201	Standard
Sold Secure Specification for Electrical/Electronic Security Systems for Motorbikes.	
SS 202	Standard
Sold Secure Specification for Electrical/Electronic Security Systems for Motor Vehicles.	

SS 203	Standard
Sold Secure Specification for Tracking Systems for Motor Vehicles.	
SS 204	Standard
Sold Secure Specification for Electronic Security Systems for Construction Industrial and Agricultural Equipment and Associated Trailers.	
SS 205	Standard
Sold Secure Specification for Electronic Alarm Systems for Caravans.	Draft
SS 206	Standard
Sold Secure Specification for Electrical/Electronic Security Systems for Motor Scooters.	
SS 301	Standard
Sold Secure Specification for Mechanical Security Systems for Domestic Buildings.	
SS 302	Standard
Sold Secure Specification for Security Cabinets for Fire Arms.	
SS 303	Standard
Sold Secure Specification for High Security Padlocks for General Applications.	
SS 304	Standard
Sold Secure Specification for Security Cabinets and Domestic Safes.	
SS 305	Standard
Sold Secure Specification for Asset Marking Systems for Vehicles.	Draft
SS 306	Standard
Sold Secure Specification for Mechanical, Domestic Door and Window Security Systems.	

SS 307	Standard
Sold Secure Specification for High Security Chain for General Applications.	
SS 308	Standard
Sold Secure Specification for Mechanical, Commercial Door Security Systems.	
SS 401	Standard
Sold Secure Specification for the Security Assessment of Whole Vehicles.	
SS 402	Standard
Sold Secure Specification for the Assessment of Whole Vehicle Security for Construction Industrial and Agricultural Equipment and Associated Trailers.	
Stand by battery	Alarm
A battery which powers the alarm system should the main power supply fail.	Also known as a Back Up Battery
Staple	Locksmith
1) A box-like fitting on the jamb of an inward opening door, and into which the bolt of a rim latch or lock shoots when the door is closed. (It is sometimes referred to in Scotland and the North of England as a Boss head). Some staples are lipped to act as a guide for the spring bolt. 2) Part of a hasp and staple for use with a padlock. The padlock shackle passes through the eye or hole in the staple.	
Status indication	Alarm Vehicle
A function or component of the security system which can indicate the status of the security system.	

Status	Alarm Vehicle
The operating condition of the security system, such as set, unset or alarm condition.	
Stay	Building
See casement stay, friction stay	
Steel lining	Building
Steel sheet linings applied to external or both faces of a door, usually screwed and bolted through.	
Stile	Locksmith
A vertical edge member of a door leaf.	
Stop button(s)	Locksmith
There are generally two in number. They are incorporated in the fore end of certain cylinder mortise nightlatches or locks. One button, when depressed, renders the outside furniture inoperable and the other, when depressed, restores the power of operation. They are useful for privacy and on vestibule doors. They are sometimes referred to as stopworks.	
Stop knob	Locksmith
A device incorporated in some latches and locking latches to hold the bolt retracted or deadlock the bolt when door is closed.	Also known as a Snib or Hold Back Stop
Straight cabinet lock	Locksmith
A cabinet lock, with no flange on the case, for flush fitting to cupboards and drawers.	
Stress detector	Alarm
A detector which monitors the stress in a beam or floor and causes an alarm condition if the stress level is changed by someone walking on it.	

Striking plate	Locksmith
It is a shaped flat metal plate fixed to the door frame or jamb with one or more bolt holes into which the bolt or bolts shoot. There is often a shaped projecting lip on one side to guide the spring bolt.	Also known as a striker, locking plate, keep or keeper.
Strobe light	Alarm Vehicle
To readily indicate where an audible alarm is emanating from, a flashing or strobe light may be used.	Noise pollution regulation requires that audible alarms should be shut off after a limited period. Strobe lights may continue to operate after this time to give continued indication of the alarm condition.
Strongroom	Safe
Storage unit which protects against burglary and when closed has internal side lengths in all directions greater than 1m.	European Standards definition.
Sub grand master key	Locksmith
A key which will operate all locks in its own main group or (sub-grand suite) of a (grand) master keyed system.	
Sub master key	Locksmith
A key which will operate all locks in its own smaller group (or sub-suite) of a (grand) master keyed system.	
Suite (of locks)	Locksmith
A group or collection of locks and/or padlocks of different Differs incorporated together under a master key or grand master key system.	
Switcher	CCTV
A device which is able to route several camera signals to a single monitor in sequence.	
T Hinge	Building
See Cross Garnet Hinge	

Tag	RFID
See Transponder also known as a Data Carrier.	
Talon	Locksmith
The gap that in a dead bolt lathe or runner of a lever lock where the key engages the bolt.	
Technician code	Alarm
An alphanumeric code that is required by the alarm system prior to the changing of various technical features in its setup.	The technician code can usually be set to require the user code to be input prior to the technician code. This prevents unauthorised modifications being made without the owners consent.
Telemetry transmitter	CCTV
The unit, at the control centre, that allows remote control of the PTZ of the cameras.	
Throating	Locksmith
The space between the collar and the nearer edge of the bit of two sided keys.	
Throw	Locksmith
Bolts latched with linear movement.- The distance that the tip of the latch or bolt travels from the unlocked to the locked position measured perpendicular to the fore end of the lock. Bolts latched with circular movement. - The distance that the tip of the latch or bolt travels from the unlocked to the locked position measured parallel to the fore end of the lock.	See also Projection and Engagement.
Thumb turn	Locksmith
A small fitting, on the inside of a lock, which is gripped between thumb and finger to operate the bolt.	It is inadvisable to incorporate a thumb turn on any lock which is used on glass or wood panelled doors.

Tie bars	Building
The horizontal members of a vertical bar grille.	
Till lock	Locksmith
A drawer lock, or a cabinet lock, that self locks when the drawer is closed. It is self-closing and is unlocked by key.	See also Slam Lock
Tilt switch	Alarm Vehicle
A sensor which generates an alarm condition when it is tilted more than a prescribed amount.	Often used on vehicles to deter towing away.
Tilt turn window	Building
A style of window often found in mainland Europe. It has two opening options depending on handle position. It can tilt back into the room to provide a small opening for ventilation or it can hinge sideways into the room to provide a large opening more ventilation or cleaning.	
Time lock	Locksmith
A clockwork or electric timing device which allows only a short period in which the lock may be operated.	Often used for a safe or strongroom.
Toe	Locksmith
The extreme tip of a bitted key.	
Touch key	Building Alarm Vehicle
An electronic (or similar) key which activates the lock or alarm system simply by placing the key into a receptacle.	

Toughened glass	Building Vehicle
Toughened glass is a safety glass made by placing annealed glass in an oven and quenching it on removal.	Typically toughened glass is around eight times stronger than standard annealed glass and when it breaks it forms a multitude of tiny fragments. Although it is tough, it is very vulnerable to being broken by a sharp point such as a centre punch. In housing it is often found in low windows, doors and other risk areas. Due to its manner of breakage it offers no security, its value is as a safety glass.
Tower bolt	Building
A device where a shoot runs through metal staples attached to a backplate and is exposed for the greater part length. The shoot is provided with a knob or similar for operation by hand.	See also Barrel bolt
Tracking system	Tracking Vehicle
A tracking system is a device that will broadcast the location of a vehicle when it is stolen.	There are two main types of tracking systems. Older designs use radio signals to convey the vehicle's position. Newer designs use a combination of GPS and GSM technologies to report the vehicle's position. Both the system types have their own advantages and disadvantages.
Tracking	CCTV
Tracking is the zoom len's ability to remain in focus during the entire zoom range from wide angle to telephoto position.	
Transom	Building
A fixed horizontal member between window lights.	

Transponder	Alarm Vehicle
A transponder is a device, which when electronically interrogated, responds with its own code.	Alarm transponders are usually passive devices which only respond to the appropriate radio signal. They can be used as a form of electronic marking or as an electronic key.
Transponder	RFID
The unit carrying the identification code, one of which is placed on each item to be identified.	The transponder unit contains a memory, a transmitter and a receiver in a single unit. Depending on the design other features may also be present. Also known as a Tag or a Data Carrier
Tubing and wiring	Alarm
Tubing and wiring is a type of continuous wiring used to secure windows.	The continuous wire is passed through light metal tubes set in a frame. Should the wire be broken then an alarm condition is generated.
Tubular mortise lock or latch	Locksmith
A lock or latch so designed that the case is tubular in form. The fitting of this type of latch requires only the drilling of a round hole into the edge of the door into which the lock or latch is fitted, and secured in position by screws in the fore end. It is very economical in fitting time.	Also known as a Bored Lock/Latch Set
Tumbler	Locksmith
A movable detainer which must be lifted before the key can rotate and the bolt of the lock can move.	
Two step unlock	Vehicle
A single press on the key fob transmitter will only unlock the driver's door. A second press will unlock all the other doors.	An anti hijack feature designed to stop intruders entering through the passenger doors of the vehicle or removing items from the boot whilst the vehicle is stationary.

Ultra Violet (UV) Marking	Marking Property
UV marking is a covert marking system applied using a special pen. Once applied the marks can only be seen using a UV light.	UV marks generally fade over time so need to be reapplied periodically.
Ultrasonic detector	Alarm Vehicle
An ultrasonic detector is a volumetric detector which uses changes in the ultrasound pattern to detect an intrusion.	The detector consists of a transmitter and a receiver in one unit. The unit transmits the ultrasound and the receiver records the ultrasound reflections from the room. Should an intrusion occur then the pattern of reflection will change and the detector will generate an alarm condition. Ultrasonic detectors are sensitive to air movements so care is needed in their installation to prevent false alarms.
Uncoded system (asset marking)	Marking Property Vehicle
An uncoded system is one where the marking text is readily referenced to the asset owner. This could include: VIN numbers, vehicle registration numbers or postcodes.	
Unset	Alarm Vehicle
The state of an alarm system where an alarm condition cannot normally be indicated.	
Upright lock	Locksmith
An upright mortise lock, consisting of a latch bolt and a key operated bolt. The case is narrow and the centres of the follower hole and keyhole are in the same vertical plane.	Also known as a sash lock.

User code	Alarm
A code that is input by the authorised user of the alarm system to set, unset and possibly program the system.	User codes should be chosen at random and not consist of names or other words. They should be changed on a regular basis and whenever anyone who knows the code ceases to have authorised access.
Valuable	Property
Articles of value including money.	
Vee cuts (of key)	Locksmith
The tumbler cuts in pin tumbler, disc tumbler and similar keys.	
Vehicle Crime Reduction Action Team (VCRAT)	Organisation
The Home Office organisation charged with reducing vehicle crime.	
Vertical bar grille	Building
A permanently fixed security grille placed either inside or outside a window.	Usually the bars are of steel and are joined by Tie Bars to prevent them being spread by jacks or similar implements.
Video motion detection	CCTV
A system that uses the video signal from a camera to determine if there is any movement in the picture. This may be used to increase the dwell time or set off an alarm.	Also known as Activity Detection
VIN	Vehicle
Vehicle identification number; a unique 17 character alphanumeric number which is assigned to a vehicle.	VIN numbers are affixed to the vehicle by the vast majority of the world's car manufacturers.
Visible VIN	Vehicle
A VIN plate attached to the vehicle in such a way that it can easily be read from outside of the vehicle. This is usually mounted on the dash panel such that it is visible through the windscreen.	

Voltage drop	Vehicle
See Current Sensing	
Volumetric detector	Alarm
A detector which monitors an area for intrusion.	Examples of volumetric detectors are microwave, ultrasonic and passive infra red.
Wafer tumblers	Locksmith
An American name for Disc Tumblers.	
Walk test	Alarm
A function of the alarm system that permits a user to test the operation of each detector.	A walk test should be carried out on a regular basis according to the manufacturer's instructions.
Warded lock	Locksmith
Any lock or padlock, the mechanism of which makes use only of wards.	Not recommended due to lack of security.
Ward	Locksmith
Fixed obstructions inside a lock case to preclude the use of wrong key, as the key is cut to pass over the wards and operate the lock. They are sometimes used in lever locks to give increased differs.	Wards alone give very little security. See Skeleton Key.
Warn away	Vehicle
A system that uses perimeter detection to deter potential thieves by sounding the horn or flashing the lights etc. when the vehicle's perimeter is approached.	
Watch zone	Alarm
See Chime Zone	

Wheel ward	Locksmith
This kind is often seen in cabinet locks. There may be one or more wards made of sheet metal of different heights bent into a curve. If fixed directly under the keyhole, the key cannot enter fully unless notched to suit. If the wards are fixed at the side of the keyhole, the key may be able to enter but cannot turn unless the cuts in the bit correspond with the wards. A large number of differs can be provided with this type of ward.	
Window glass	Building
See Annealed glass	
Wire free key	Alarm Vehicle
An electronic key that may be used at a medium to long range from the security system (normally greater than 100mm) with no physical interconnection.	
Wireless	Alarm
An alarm system which that uses RF to send alarm signals from the detectors to the control box.	Some systems will also transmit the status of the detector and its battery. These systems will alert you if a detector is malfunctioning.
WMRM	RFID
Acronym for write many, read many.	A WMRM transponder can have its code changed many times during its life. This may be of use if the transponder is on a reusable shipping container where the code indicates the contents. Some WMRM transponders require a password before their code is changed thus giving a measure of security.
Wooden stock lock	Locksmith
See Banbury lock	

WORM Acronym for write once, read many.	RFID A WORM transponder may have its code written by the user or supplier. This code cannot be changed but can be read many times. This enables the supplier to set the code to a meaningful number (e.g. a vehicle VIN number).
Zone Often the detectors in alarm systems may be grouped into zones. This allows simple setting of parts of the alarm systems.	Alarm Zones may be geographic in nature so that one part of the premises can be protected whilst other areas are still occupied or may consist of different applications such as fire detectors or Deliberately Operated Devices which require 24 hour coverage.
Zoom lens A zoom lens is one in which the focal length can be changed such that it can be used as a wide angle, standard or telephoto lens.	CCTV