

# Doorpac fact sheet 4

## Doorsets and assemblies

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### What's the difference?

#### Fire doorset

The British Standard BSEN12519 provides the following definition:- a 'complete unit consisting of a door frame and a door leaf or leaves, supplied with all essential parts from a single source'. This means that a door leaf is factory pre-hung in its frame, with hinges, glazing system (glass, seal, bead & fixing), fire and (when required) smoke seals, and ironmongery. It is supplied as a complete unit. A fire doorset is a fully finished, engineered unit from a single manufacturer, with all components matched and pre-assembled in the factory and is covered by a single fire certificate. When the whole doorset is supplied in individual component parts for assembly on site, this is often referred to as a door kit.

#### Fire Door Assemblies

The British Standard BSEN12519 provides the following definition:- a 'complete assembly as installed, including door frame and one or more leaves, together with its essential hardware supplied from separate sources'. This means that it is a fire door installation made up from loose, correct, compatible components - consisting of a door leaf, frame, architraves, glazing system (glass, seal, bead & fixing), decorative finishes, seals, intumescent, ironmongery and door furniture, sourced from different suppliers and manufacturers, made up on site into the final door assembly. It is the **ONLY** acceptable alternative to a fire doorset.

### Is one better than the other?

No. BWF-CERTIFIRE Fire Door & Doorset Scheme fire doorsets and fire door assemblies will have compatible components that meet the Building Regulations and will work in the event of a fire. So the decision depends on the users needs, budget and convenience.



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## Points to Consider.

### Fire doorset:

**Compatible components:** Fire doorsets are pre-assembled and therefore the manufacturer includes all the correct components. This guarantees that the entire doorset, including the individual components, will match the tested design. It also means that there is less room for error because the compatible components are in place, so you avoid the problem of having to source correct components individually.

**Installation:** Fire doorsets are treated more carefully on-site, as doorsets are more expensive than individual components. Doorsets are also easier to install, as it is only a matter of fitting the assembly to the aperture, following the manufacturer's simple installation instructions. Independent research by Gleeds has found the installed cost of Fire Doorsets to be less than that of traditional fire door assemblies, taking account of purchase costs, site installation and contract handover.

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

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

### Fire Door Assemblies:

**Compatible components:** The components of door assemblies are sourced from different manufacturer's, where you can select from a range of products. If any individual component gets damaged, it can be replaced from another supplier. The correct components for door assemblies are listed in the manufacturer's instructions (they are also available on the individual company websites), and can be sourced from any BWF Approved Fire Door Centre or from companies listed in the BWF-CERTIFIRE Fire Door and Doorset Scheme directory. Further information on compatible components can be obtained by contacting the BWF.

**Installation:** Door assemblies can be installed sequentially during the different stages of the building process, enabling components to be stored and protected. To reduce risks of errors in installation, the BWF recommends that fire doors are NOT glazed on site, and suggests seeking advice or purchasing a fire door that meets your requirements from an approved modifier company in the scheme. The manufacturer's installation instructions will provide you with full guidance and information to ensure correct fitting and correct sourcing of components to ensure that the fire door assembly meets the correct performance level.

**Purchasing:** Using door assemblies can be cost effective, in that, each individual component can be sourced separately at different times, enabling you to stagger the purchasing cost, so long as the components comply with the manufacturer's installation instructions. Also, as long as you purchase the compatible components, sourcing components from different sources may allow you to negotiate the cost. It can also increase flexibility, because individual components can be purchased at varying stages of the installation. For example, if the customer chooses an unfinished door assembly the builder can install the fire door frame during first fix, followed by the door leaf and ironmongery at a later stage, probably during second fix, leaving the application of the final protective coating as the last step prior to installation.

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

**Manufacturer's Instructions:** It is imperative that you refer to the manufacturer's installation instructions supplied with every BWF-CERTIFIRE Fire Door & Doorset Scheme member, to ensure that you are either sourcing and installing the correct and compatible components for door assemblies or fitting the doorsets correctly. These instructions are also available to you on the company websites. Please contact the BWF if you have difficulties in obtaining them.