

Flat Front Door Checklist

Certification

What to check

Look for a label or plug (marking) on the top (or occasionally on the side) of the door.

Why

Without a certification mark, you cannot be sure if it is really a fire door.

How

Use a mirror, or the selfie function on your camera phone.

Hinges

What to check

Check all hinges are firmly fixed (three or more of them), with no missing or broken screws.

Why

To be sure the door has been properly maintained, and the intensity of a fire will perform properly.

How

Open the door and take a look at the hinges.

Seals

What to check

Look for any intumescent seals around the door or frame. Check they are intact with no sign of damage.

Why

To be sure the seals will expand if they come into contact with heat and will stop the fire (and in some cases smoke) moving through the cracks.

How

Take a look at the edges of the door and frame.

Closing Properly

What to check

Check the door closes firmly onto the latch without sticking on the floor or the frame.

Why

A fire door will only work when its closed. A fire door is completely useless if its wedged open or can't close fully.

How

Open the door about halfway, let go and allow it to close by itself. If you find any defects, contact me for guidance.

Gaps

What to check

Check the gaps around the top and side of the door are consistently less than 4mm when the door's closed. The gap under the door can be slightly larger (up to 8mm).

Why

To make sure gaps are not so big that smoke and fire could travel through the cracks.

How

Use a £1 coin to give a feel for scale, this is about 3mm thick.

