
5-Minute Fire Door Self-Checklist

A Guide for Property Managers, Landlords & Responsible Persons

Why this matters: Under the Fire Safety (England) Regulations 2022, regular fire door checks are now a legal requirement. This checklist helps you identify "Category A" failures before your official Fire Risk Assessment (FRA).

THE 5-POINT CHECK

1. Certification (The Identity)

Action: Open the door and look at the top or the hinge edge.

The Goal: You should see a color-coded plug or a manufacturer's label (e.g., BM TRADA, BWF-CERTIFIRE).

If missing: The fire rating of the door cannot be legally proven.

Pass Fail

2. Gaps & Seals (The £1 Coin Test)

Action: Check the gaps around the top and sides of the door when closed.

The Goal: The gap should be between 2mm and 4mm. (A £1 coin is 3mm thick—it should fit snugly).

Check the Seals: Ensure the intumescent strips are not damaged or painted over.

Pass Fail

3. Hinges (The Support)

Action: Check all hinges (there should be at least 3).

The Goal: Ensure all screws are present and tight. Look for "black dust" (carbon) around the hinge—this is a sign of metal wear and imminent failure.

Pass Fail

4. Closing Properly (The Latch Test)

Action: Open the door halfway and let go. Then open it just 50mm and let go.

The Goal: The door must shut firmly into the latch from any position without being pushed. If it sticks on the floor or frame, it is non-compliant.

Pass Fail

5. Damage & Alterations

Action: Inspect the door leaf and glazing.

The Goal: No visible cracks, holes, or splintering. Any glass must be fire-rated and held firmly by intumescent beads.

Pass Fail

Did your doors fail any of these tests?

Don't panic Replacement isn't your only option.

At **Dovetail Fire Doors Ltd**, we specialise in **Remedial Works**. We can often bring your existing doors back to 100% compliance by:

- Re-hanging doors to correct non-compliant gaps.
- Installing new, certified intumescent and smoke seals.
- Upgrading to Grade 13 fire-rated hinges and closers.

Get a Certified Remedial Quote Today. Every repair we do comes with a Fire Door Safety & Compliance Certificate to satisfy your legal audit trail.

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