# Fire door *specification* guide

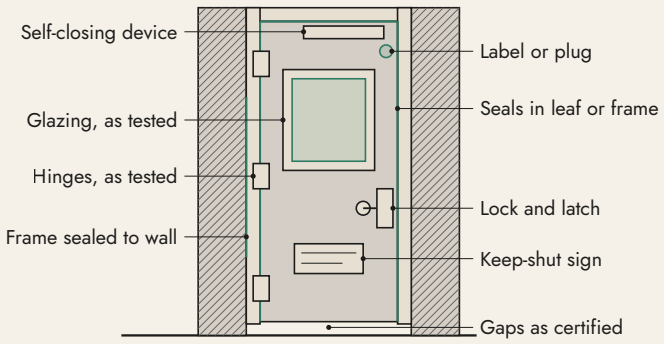
What FD30S and E30 Sa mean, where each rating applies in Approved Document B, the evidence a fire doorset needs and what changed from 2022.

Compliance guidance. Figures and paragraph numbers are from Approved Document B volumes 1 and 2 (2019 edition with the 2020, 2022, 2025 and 2026 amendments; the 2029 amendments shown separately), for England, and from the Fire Safety (England) Regulations 2022, read on 5 November 2026. A fire door is a certified assembly: take gaps, finishes and fixing from the door maker's certificate, not from this sheet. Check the current editions with your fire engineer and building control. This is guidance, not legal or fire safety advice. The studio does not certify fire doors and does not claim that it or its partner workshops supply certified fire doors.

## AT A GLANCE

| Question | Answer | Where it comes from | Note |
|---|---|---|---|
| FD30S | 30 minutes of integrity to BS 476-22, with S for restricted smoke leakage. The European form is E30 Sa. | ADB App. C, C1, C2 | Table C1 prints both. The FD column goes on 2 Sept 2029. |
| Flat entrance door from a shared space; protected stairway enclosure | E30 Sa (FD30S) | Table C1, 2(a), 4(a) | A self-closing device is needed (C5). |
| Any other protected corridor; corridor sub-division | E20 Sa (FD20S) | Table C1, 5(b), 7 | BWF advises FD30 with seals: a trade view. |
| Door in a cavity barrier; access to an external escape route | E30 (FD30) | Table C1, 8, 6 | No Sa suffix. A compartment wall between buildings: door as the wall, 60 minutes at least (item 1). |
| What counts as proof | Test evidence or assessment for the complete installed assembly, with certificate and label. | C1, C4 | A small change in detail can change the rating. |
| In use, blocks of flats | Residents told yearly; flat entrance doors checked yearly and shared fire doors quarterly in blocks over 11 m. | SI 2022/547, reg. 10 | In force 23 January 2023. England only. |

England only. Read from Approved Document B (2019 edition incorporating the 2020, 2022, 2025 and 2026 amendments) on 5 November 2026.




A fire doorset in elevation: the parts that are tested, certified and fitted together. Schematic, not to scale. Original drawing by Make Bespoke Studio.

## DATES

16 May 2022 Fire Safety Act s.1 (England). 23 Jan 2023 Fire Safety (England) Regulations 2022, regulation 10. 8 Aug 2025 government fire door guidance revised. 20 Mar 2026 BS 8214:2026. 2 Sep 2029 Approved Document B drops the FD notation. Ask for the certificate, field of application and installation instructions for the exact doorset; never plane, scribe or glaze on site.

## SPECIFICATION WORDING

### FIRE DOORSET

Fire doorsets to [positions on fire strategy drawing, ref [ ]] to achieve [E30 Sa / E30 / E20 Sa] ([FD30S / FD30 / FD20S]) as Approved Document B Table C1 item [2(a)] and the project fire strategy, tested to BS EN 1634-1 [and BS EN 1634-3 where Sa is required] and classified to BS EN 13501-2, and supplied as a complete doorset (leaf, frame, seals, hinges, closer, lock, latch and glazing as tested) with third-party certification. Hinges as tested. Certificate, field of application and installation instructions to be submitted before manufacture.

### FINISHES AND VARIATIONS

Any veneer, lacquer, size, glazing or ironmongery not covered by the doorset certificate to be identified at tender, with the certificate holder's written confirmation or an assessment report [reference]. No leaf or lining to be planed, scribed or cut on site; no existing frame reused unless checked against the leaf's data sheet.

### SELF-CLOSING, SIGNS AND LABELS

Self-closing devices to all fire doorsets except [cupboards, ducts normally locked shut, doors within flats]. Signs to BS 5499-5 on both sides unless exempt (ADB C12). Labels or plugs not to be removed or painted over.

### HANDOVER

Door schedule for the O&M manual: position, rating, certificate reference, installer, date fitted and as-fitted gaps for every fire doorset, in the form [ ].

## TERMS USED

### FD30S

A fire door that withstands fire for 30 minutes (integrity) when tested to BS 476-22; the S suffix means it also limits smoke leakage at room temperature. In the European system the equivalent notation is E30 with an Sa classification.

### Intumescent seal

A strip fitted in the door or frame that swells when heated to close the gap around a fire door. BWF's position is that it should be fitted on every fire door.

### Integrity (E)

How long a doorset keeps flames and hot gases from passing through it, in minutes. Table C1 asks for integrity, not insulation.

## STANDARDS AND SOURCES

- Approved Document B volumes 1 and 2, 2019 edition with the 2020, 2022, 2025 and 2026 amendments, and the 2029 amendments (England): Appendix C, Table C1, Section 17. Read 5 Nov 2026.
- The Fire Safety (England) Regulations 2022, SI 2022/547: regulations 1, 3 and 10; in force 23 January 2023.
- Fire Safety Act 2021, section 1: in force for England 16 May 2022.
- gov.uk fire door guidance under the 2022 Regulations: revised 8 August 2025.
- BWF Fire Door Alliance Fact Cards 9, 10 and 11 (September 2024): trade body guidance.
- BS 8214:2026; BS EN 1634-1; BS EN 13501-2:2023; BS 476-22: status only; not read. Confirm the current edition.

Full guide: https://makebespoke.com/trade/technical/fire-door-specification-guide. Make Bespoke Studio coordinates manufacture through its partner workshops. Figures are guidance only and your specification governs; some may be superseded, so contact the studio to verify.