

LEGISLATION AND CODES OF PRACTICE



Legislation and Codes of Practice

INTRODUCTION

- Building Regulations.
- Regulatory Reform Order.
- Supporting Documents:
- BS9999 – Code of practice for fire safety in the design, management and use of buildings.
- BS8214 - Code of practice for fire door assemblies.

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BUILDING REGULATIONS

- Expressed in functional terms.
- Assumptions:
 - The fire starts in the compartment.
 - There is a single seat of ignition.
 - The initiating fire is small.
 - The initiating fire is accidental.
 - Safety systems are intact.
 - The building is well managed.

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BUILDING REGULATIONS

- Ways to satisfy:
 1. General approach. Approved Document.
 2. Advanced approach. BS9999.
 3. Fire safety engineering. BS7974.

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GENERAL APPROACH

- England & Wales: Approved Document B.
- Scotland: Technical Standard D
- Northern Ireland: Technical Booklet E
- Special cases e.g.
 - UK Fire Code for hospitals (HTM05).
 - UK Fire Code for schools (BB100).

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ADVANCED APPROACH

- BS9999:2008
- Superseded BS5588 in 2009.
- A more transparent and flexible approach through a structured fire-risk approach taking account of varying physical and human factors.
- Primarily intended for designers, fire engineers and fire safety managers.

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FIRE SAFETY ENGINEERING

- BS 7974: 2001
- Alternative approach.
- Large and complex buildings.
- Buildings containing different uses.

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BS8214:2008

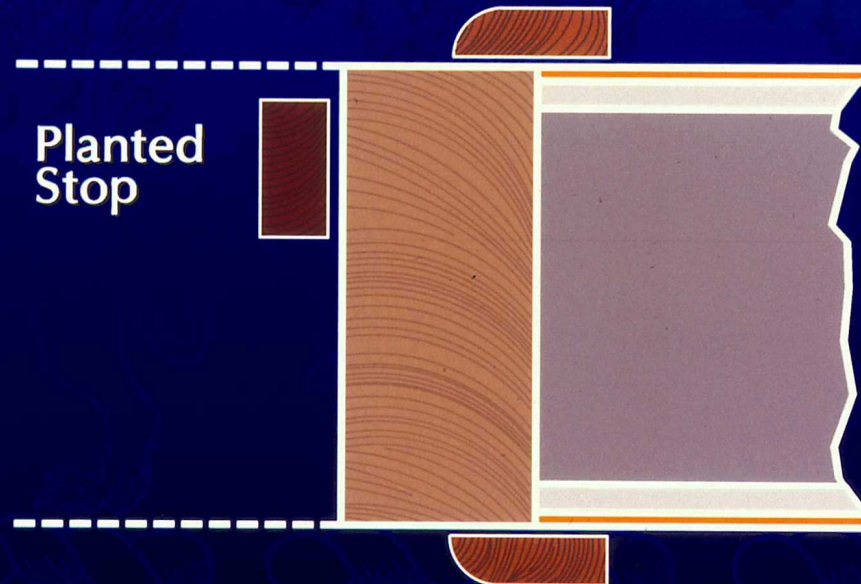
- Code of Practice for Fire Door Assemblies.
- Addresses some popular misconceptions about fire doors.

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BS8214: Doorstops

DOORSTOPS

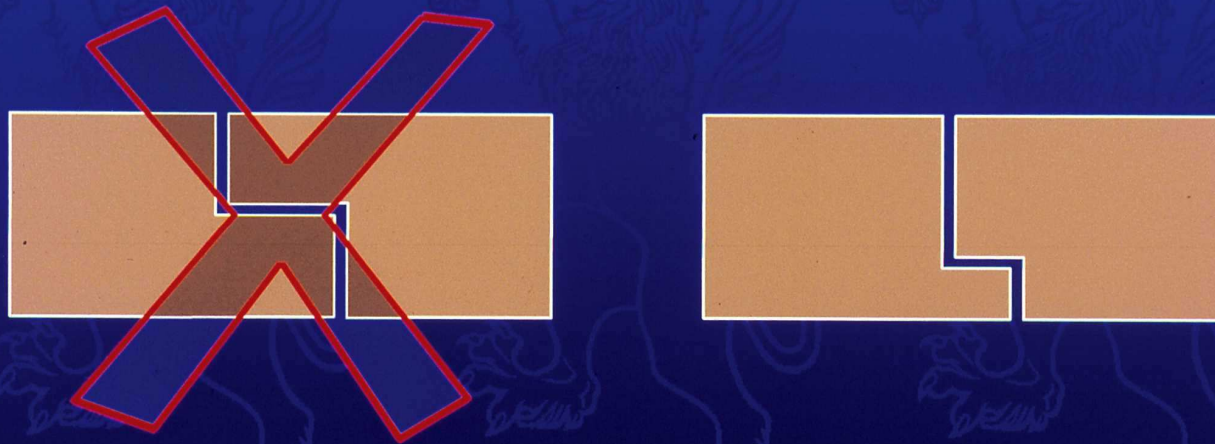
These do not have to be formed from solid; planted are acceptable



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BS8214: Rebated Meeting Stiles

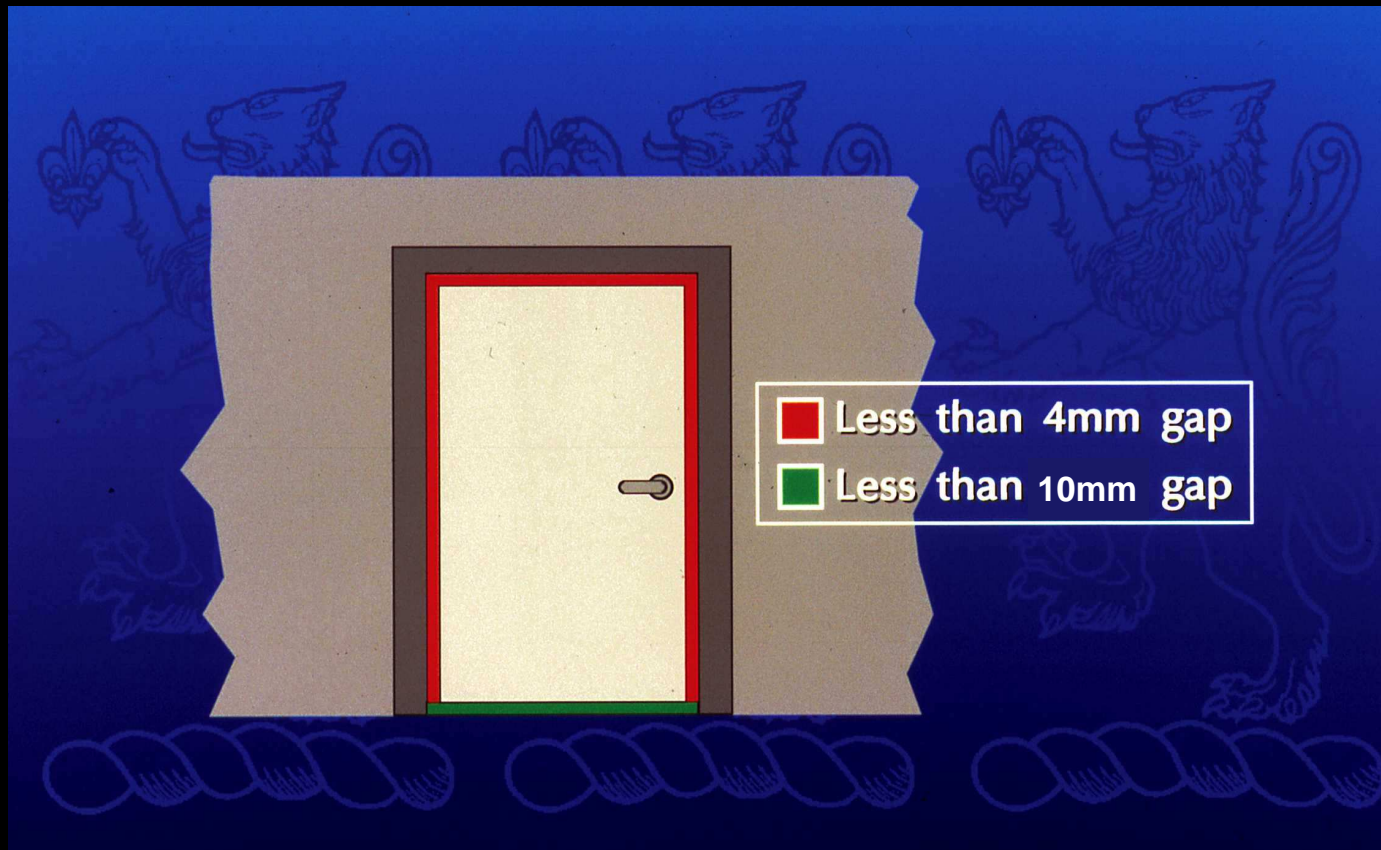
REBATED MEETING STILES



If they have to be used they must be unequal and small
In principle they are not recommended

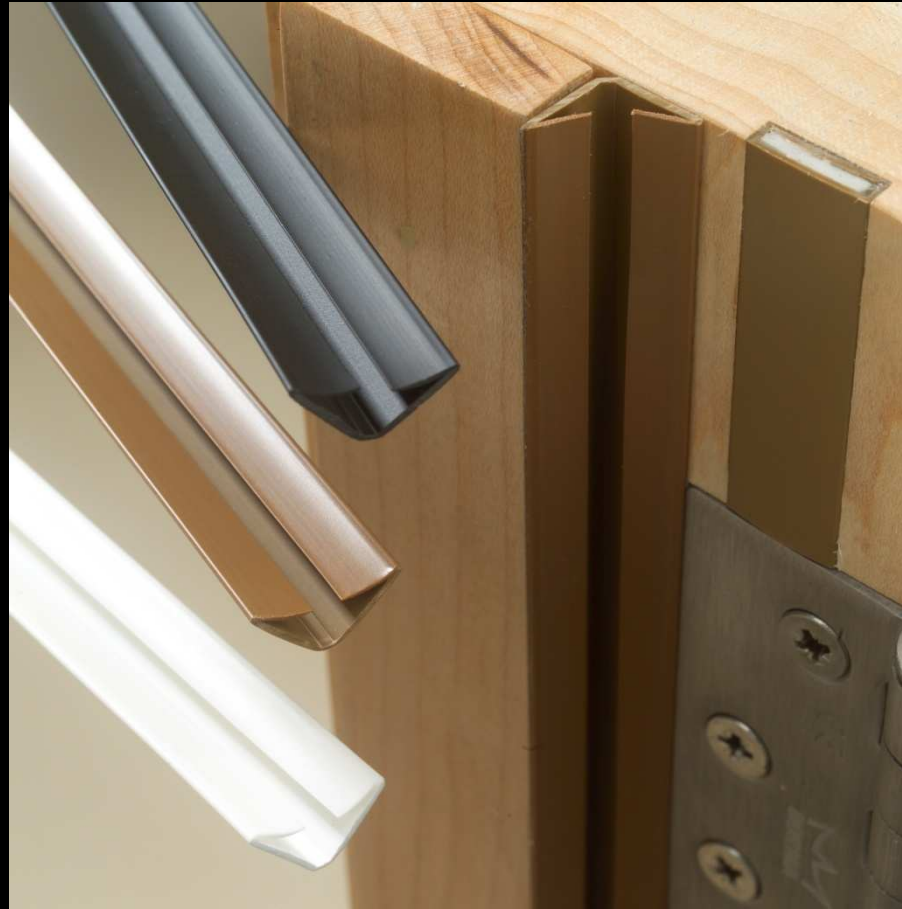
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BS8214: Door-frame gaps (1)



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BS8214: Door-frame gaps (2)



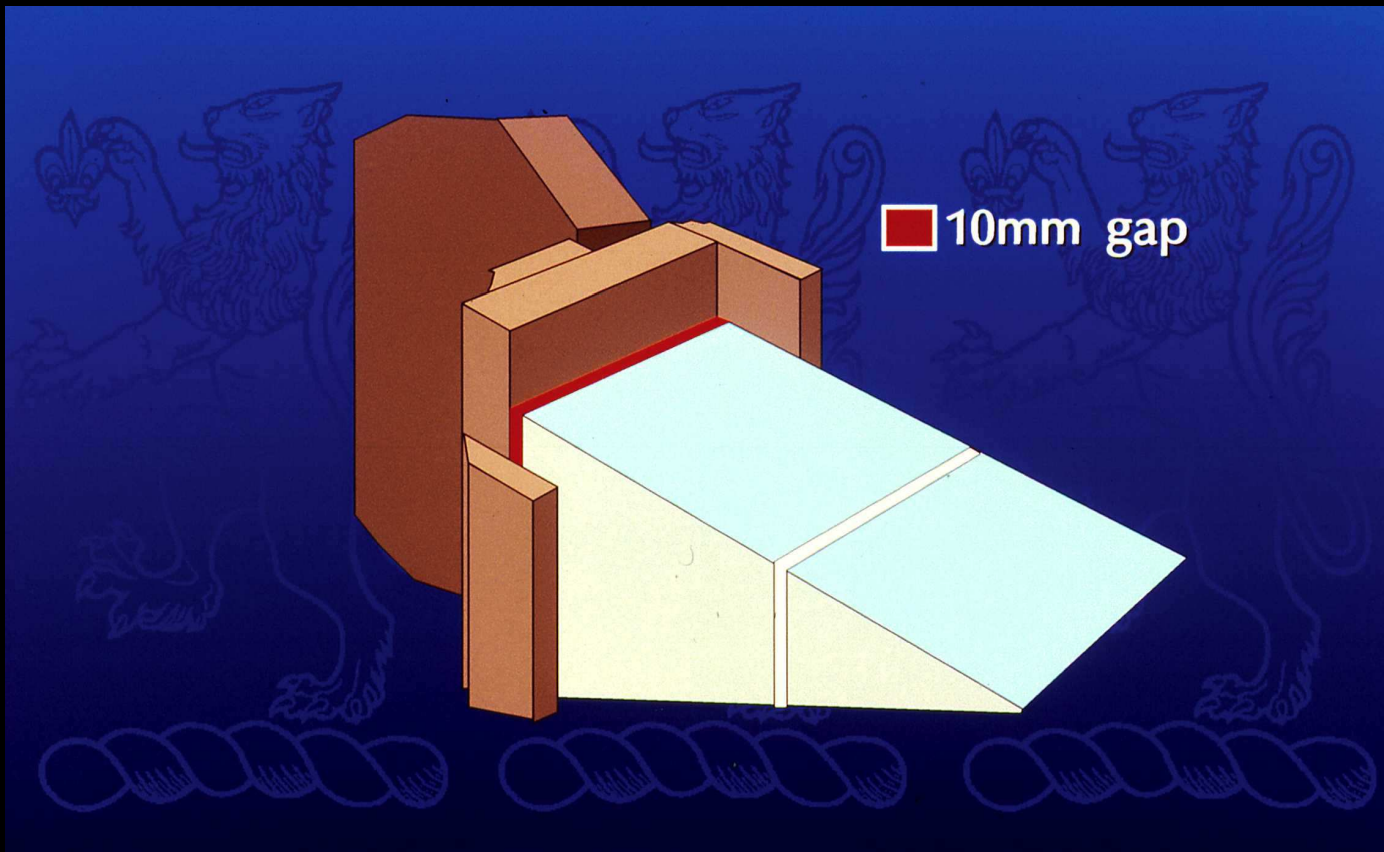
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BS8214: Door-frame gaps (3)



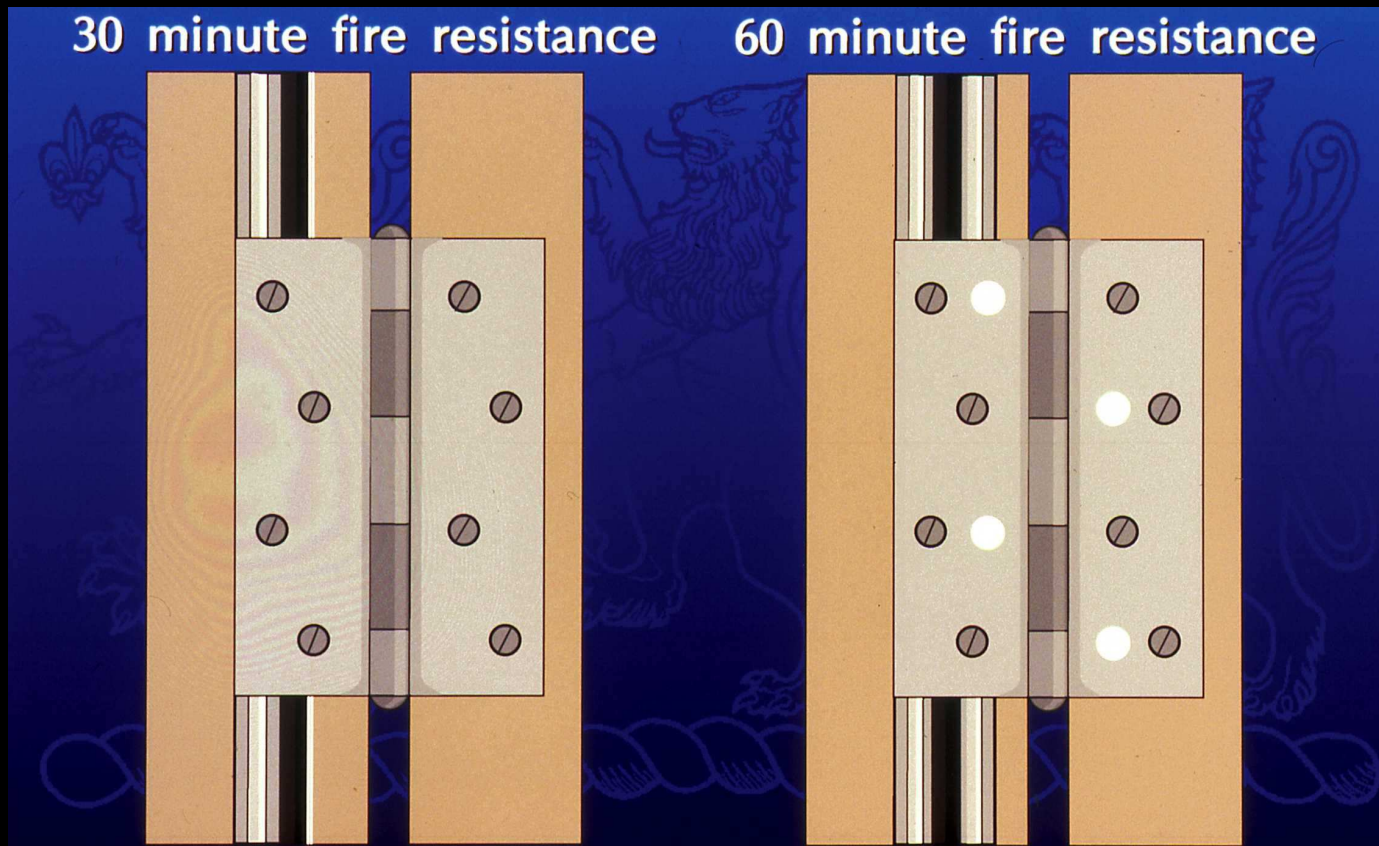
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BS8214: Frame- structural opening gaps



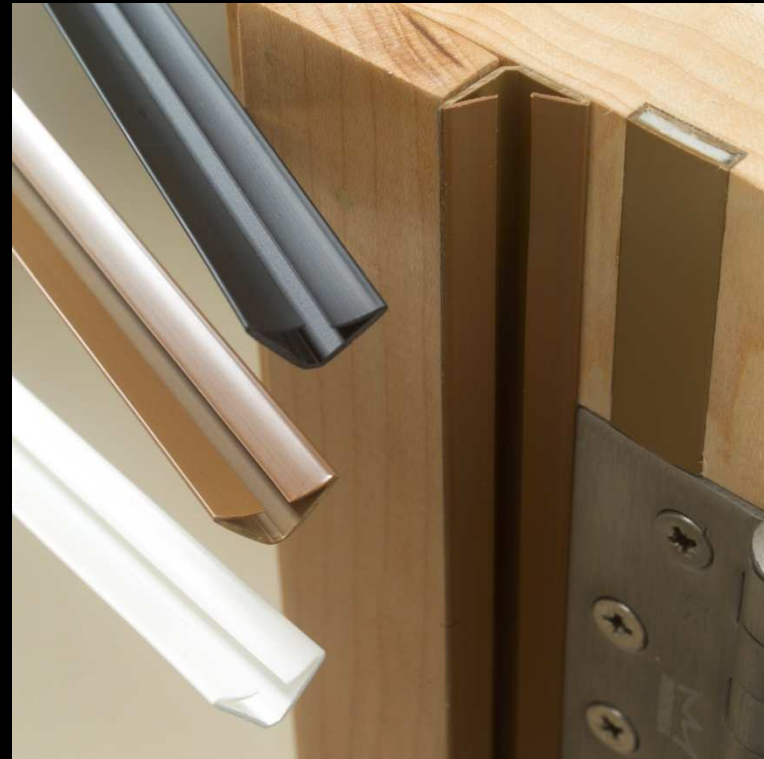
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BS8214: Ironmongery protection (1)



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BS8214: Ironmongery protection (2)



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BS8214: Ironmongery protection (3)



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REGULATORY REFORM ORDER

- The Regulatory Reform (Fire Safety) Order 2005.
- Fire Safety (Scotland) Regulations 2006.
- Fire Safety (Northern Ireland) Regulations 2006.

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FUNDAMENTALS OF THE ORDER

- Applies to all non-domestic premises.
- Responsibility for compliance rests with the 'responsible person'.
- Responsible person must carry out a suitable and sufficient risk assessment which focuses on the safety of all 'relevant persons'.
- May appoint a 'competent person'.

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RESPONSIBLE PERSON

- Workplace: the employer if the work place is to any extent under his control.
- Otherwise:
 - The person who has control of the premises.
 - The owner.

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RELEVANT PERSON

- Any person who is or may be lawfully on the premises; and
- Any person in the immediate vicinity of the premises.

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COMPETENT PERSON

- A person who has sufficient training and experience or knowledge and other qualities to enable him to properly implement the required measures.
- They may be the 'responsible person'.

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RISK ASSESSMENT

- Identify fire hazards.
- Identify people at risk.
- Evaluate remove, reduce and protect from risk.
- Record, plan, instruct, inform and train.
- Review.
- Guidance documents.

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CONCLUSION

- Building Regulations are functional rather than prescriptive.
- Preference for proprietary solutions proven by test.
- A more assessment based approach to fire safety.

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