

BS 7582:2021



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Reconditioning of used safes and secure safe cabinets — Code of practice

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Contents

| | Page |
|--|-----------|
| Foreword | ii |
| Introduction | 1 |
| 1 Scope | 1 |
| 2 Normative references | 1 |
| 3 Terms and definitions | 2 |
| 4 Preliminary operations of reconditioning | 2 |
| 5 Reconditioning operations | 3 |
| 5.1 General | 3 |
| 5.2 Boltwork and locks | 4 |
| 5.3 Relocking devices | 4 |
| 5.4 Anchorage points | 4 |
| 5.5 Appearance | 4 |
| 5.6 Graded units | 4 |
| 6 Documentation | 5 |
| 7 Marking and labelling | 5 |

Summary of pages

This document comprises a front cover, and inside front cover, pages i to iv, pages 1 to 5, an inside back cover and a back cover.

Foreword

Publishing information

This British Standard is published by BSI Standards Limited, under licence from The British Standards Institution, and came into effect on 31 May 2021. It was prepared by Technical Committee GW/2, *Safes*. A list of organizations represented on this committee can be obtained on request to its committee manager.

Supersession

This British Standard supersedes [BS 7582:2005](#), which is withdrawn.

Information about this document

This is a full revision of the standard, and introduces the following principal changes:

- reference to asbestos has been included;
- recommendations have been clarified on electronic locks, anchorage points and certified tested safes; and
- the content in Annex A has been moved to the main body of the document.

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It has been assumed in the preparation of this British Standard that the execution of its provisions will be entrusted to appropriately qualified and experienced people, for whose use it has been produced.

Presentational conventions

The provisions of this standard are presented in roman (i.e. upright) type. Its recommendations are expressed in sentences in which the principal auxiliary verb is “should”.

Commentary, explanation and general informative material is presented in smaller italic type, and does not constitute a normative element.

Where words have alternative spellings, the preferred spelling of the Shorter Oxford English Dictionary is used (e.g. “organization” rather than “organisation”).

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Introduction

Safe technology changes with time, principally in response to new or improved tools which have been developed for legitimate purposes but which can reduce the burglary resistance of safes when such tools are used to attack them. The older a safe is, the less likely it is to be capable of protecting its contents against attack with modern tools.

Safe manufacturers operate their own policies regarding the length of time for which spares are maintained and this affects the age of safes which can be reconditioned using genuine spares. Since such policies vary, and the life of individual products varies also, it is not easy to be specific as to the maximum age of a safe which may be reconditioned; whilst shorter time spans might apply, no safe more than 50 years old can be claimed to have been prepared in accordance with this British Standard.

Safe manufacturers have a duty of care to their customers, past and present, which includes the maintenance of confidentiality regarding the construction details of their safes. Critical information is kept confidential both within and outside safe manufacturing organizations and is released only to *bona fide* persons. It is inevitable that the wider circulation of information, specifications, drawings, etc. will undermine, to some extent, the security of products and safe manufacturers can decline to co-operate in the provision of information and/or spare parts to unaccredited reconditioning organizations.

NOTE If the safe and its contents are to be covered by insurance, the company concerned might wish to inspect it after reconditioning and establish a maximum level of overnight risk taking account of the safe itself and other circumstances.

1 Scope

This British Standard gives recommendations for the inspection, procedures and documentation associated with reconditioned safes and secure cabinets falling within the scope of the following standards:

- a) BS EN 1143-1, *Secure storage units – Requirements, classification and methods of test for resistance to burglary – Part 1: Safes, ATM safes, strongroom doors and strongrooms*
- b) BS EN 1143-2, *Secure storage units – Requirements, classification, and methods of test for resistance to burglary – Part 2: Deposit systems*
- c) BS EN 14450, *Secure storage units – Requirements, classification and methods of test for resistance to burglary – Secure safe cabinets*

The term “safe” used within this standard refers to either a safe or a secure safe cabinet.

2 Normative references

The following documents are referred to in the text in such a way that some or all of their content constitutes provisions of this document¹⁾. For dated references, only the edition cited applies. For undated references, the latest edition of the referenced document (including any amendments) applies.

BS EN 1143-1, *Secure storage units – Requirements, classification and methods of test for resistance to burglary – Part 1: Safes, ATM safes, strongroom doors and strongrooms*

¹⁾ Documents that are referred to solely in an informative manner are listed in the Bibliography.

BS EN 1143-2, *Secure storage units – Requirements, classification, and methods of test for resistance to burglary – Part 2: Deposit systems*

BS EN 1300, *Secure storage units – Classification for high security locks according to their resistance to unauthorized opening*

BS EN 14450, *Secure storage units – Requirements, classification and methods of test for resistance to burglary – Secure safe cabinets*

3 Terms and definitions

For the purposes of this British Standard, the following terms and definitions apply.

3.1 competent practitioner

person who has acquired through training, qualifications or experience, or a combination of these, the knowledge and skills enabling that person to perform a specified task

3.2 graded unit

safe carrying a label indicating that it has been type-tested and certified to a recognized national or international standard

NOTE Relevant standards include BS EN 1143-1, BS EN 1143-2 or BS EN 14450.

3.3 lock chamber cover

cover fitted to the chamber which contains the door boltwork and the lock body

NOTE This is sometimes referred to as a back pan or back plate.

3.4 reconditioned safe

used safe upon which remedial or reconditioning work has been carried out to restore it, as closely as possible, to its original manufactured specification

3.5 relocking device

system comprising blocking and detecting elements which prevents the boltwork from being withdrawn if a burglary attack is detected

[SOURCE: BS EN 1143-1:2019, 3.20, modified – note removed]

3.6 safe

secure container for the storage of cash, valuables and data media, providing protection against burglary

4 Preliminary operations of reconditioning

Preliminary operations before commencing reconditioning should be carried out as follows:

- a) examine the safe for evidence of any previous reconditioning operation, particularly with respect to the integrity of barrier materials;
- b) open the door with the key or code;
- c) check the operation of the lock or combination lock and its changing facility;
- d) check the door frame for alignment and wear;
- e) check the door hinges for wear;

- f) remove the lock chamber cover, check all the locks are correctly fitted and that all transit bolts have been removed;
- g) remove the lock, and check the lock components for wear;
- h) check the boltwork for smooth operation and the alignment of rollers or slides, with particular attention to cam operated bolt throwing mechanisms;
- i) check that all relocking devices are operating correctly, and that the glass plate, if fitted, is properly mounted to the original manufacturer's specification;
- j) check relocking device wires or cords are not damaged and do not snag with any additions or improvements made;
- k) check deposit traps and anti-fishing devices are not damaged and operate correctly;
- l) check the operation of any alarm equipment;
- m) check any labels ensuring they reflect the correct details of the safe, i.e. make and model; and
- n) check anchorage provision.

5 Reconditioning operations

5.1 General

The safe should be inspected for evidence of attack or opening following a lock-out. Any damage to the body or door, especially drilled holes or part holes, should be repaired to restore the original strength, hardness, toughness, and thermal cutting resistance. A check that the door is central in its frame and for wear of hinge pivots should be carried out.

NOTE 1 The original safe manufacturer, without accepting any legal liability, might be prepared to offer advice regarding safes of their own manufacture, based on information supplied to them.

Any principal working part replaced in reconditioning a safe should be an authentic part supplied by the original manufacturer, or a part of equivalent or better quality where the authentic part is unavailable. Replacement locks should be certified to BS EN 1300 in accordance with the requirements of the relevant standard for the safe.

Where an identical lock is no longer available, a lock of equivalent or higher specification should be fitted. The replacement lock should have no detrimental effects to the boltwork mechanism and should operate in line with the original design. The size and type of lock bolt, along with the minimum engagement should not be less than the original.

NOTE 2 Where a proprietary item, such as a lock, is part of the original specification of the safe, an identical replacement may be obtained elsewhere.

Any specific information relating to the reconditioning of a used safe, which could be of assistance in its later compromise, should be the subject of a stringent security discipline by the organization responsible for carrying out the reconditioning operations. A record of upgrades should be provided with the reconditioned safe.

Safes with a certified label claiming compliance with the relevant standards covered by the scope of this standard should be restored to the grade claimed but no higher grade can be claimed.

Specialist advice should be sought before handling safes known to contain hazardous materials, such as, but not limited to, asbestos.

NOTE 3 Asbestos was banned in the UK in 1999. It was mainly used in the house building industry, however, asbestos can be found in a few safes prior to this date, although not used by many manufacturers.

5.2 Boltwork and locks

5.2.1 Boltwork

Boltwork should be checked for wear, then cleaned and lubricated with graphite or a similar substance, e.g. a non abrasive grease, and then reinstated.

NOTE Lithium grease or copper grease would be appropriate.

5.2.2 Mechanical locks

5.2.2.1 Key locks

The levers of the existing lock should be removed and rearranged with new keys cut to the new pattern. The original number of levers should not be reduced; the gate or bridge tolerances should not be eased. If a new replacement lock is fitted then this should be of the same or more secure performance. The size, type and throw of the lock bolt and the minimum engagement with the boltwork should not be less than the original.

5.2.2.2 Combination locks

Combination locks should be checked for wear and cleaned where required. Where there are signs of wear, a completely new lock should be fitted equal or to a higher certified grade lock, conforming to BS EN 1300 and reset to factory setting. If a new replacement lock is fitted then this should be of the same or more secure performance. The size, type and throw of the lock bolt and the minimum engagement with the boltwork should not be less than the original.

5.2.3 Electronic locks

Electronic locks should be checked for wear, new batteries fitted and returned to factory setting or replaced with an equal or higher certified grade lock. If a new replacement lock is fitted then this should be of the same or more secure performance. The size, type and throw of the lock bolt and the minimum engagement with the boltwork should not be less than the original.

5.3 Relocking devices

Any relocking device and its components should be examined for effectiveness and wear and tear. If found to be defective or ineffectual, the relocking device should be replaced with a new device which operates identically as the original was intended.

5.4 Anchorage points

Anchorage points should be examined for resilience. Any graded units that show signs of damage to the anchorage points should be scrapped.

5.5 Appearance

Damaged or defective non-critical parts, such as handles, should be replaced. Bolt numbers and certification labels should be maintained and be legible. Any visual evidence of repairs should be removed.

5.6 Graded units

If graded units are forced open due to a lock-out, repairs should only be carried out by a competent practitioner. If repairs are not possible, the graded unit should be replaced. Any graded units that have been attacked during a break-in should be removed and not be resold as a graded unit.

6 Documentation

A reconditioned safe should be accompanied by documentation giving the following information:

- a) the name and address of the reconditioning organization;
- b) the make, size, model, serial number and, year of manufacture of the safe;
- c) the original specification of the safe and any modifications made subsequently to this;
- d) type and number of locks;
- e) the date of reconditioning with full details of the work carried out on the safe, including any alterations made, e.g. to the lock protection or to the barrier material;
- f) the name, registered mark and certification reference of any independent third party responsible for approval of the reconditioned safe and/or the competence of the reconditioning organization; and
- g) operating and code changing instructions where mechanical or electronic combination locks are in use.

If any of the information required under b) and c) is not known, or is uncertain, a statement to that effect should be made on the documentation.

A copy of the documentation should be retained in a secure place by the reconditioning organization.

7 Marking and labelling

Reconditioned safes should be legibly and durably marked with the following information:

- a) the name, registered mark and contact details of the organization responsible for the reconditioning operations, including any application third-party certification relating to the reconditioned safe and/or the reconditioning organization;
- b) the number of this British Standard, i.e. BS 7582:2021²⁾; and
- c) the date of the reconditioning work.

Labels should be fixed securely to the rear of the back chamber of the safe.

²⁾ Marking BS 7582:2021 on or in relation to a product represents a manufacturer/re-conditioner's declaration of conformity, i.e. a claim by or on behalf of the manufacturer/re-conditioner that the product meets the requirements of the standard. The accuracy of the claim is solely the claimant's responsibility. Such a declaration is not to be confused with second or third-party certification of conformity. Further testing and conformity certification remains at the discretion of the manufacturer/re-conditioner and is not a requirement of this standard.

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