

Choosing a Safe?



Safes are recommended for securing cash - valuables - documents against theft / fire and water damage. They can be specific to theft or fire but can offer both forms of protection. The level of protection is determined by the grade and insurance rating of the safe.

Security Safes

Security safes can be underfloor, wall fitted or free standing which is the most common. Free standing safes are available in different sizes, depending on the requirements and the volume capacity that you require to secure all your valuables. The safes are graded for insurance purposes for securing cash and valuables (notably jewellery). The higher the grade, the more you are covered for in the event of theft or fire.

Grade	Cash Cover
1	€ 17,000
2	€ 29,000
3	€ 58,000
4	€100,000
5	€158,000

You can usually multiply the cash rating by 10 to get the insurance cover for valuables such as jewellery etc.

These ratings are suggested by The European Safe Ratings committee (Blue Book) and can be influenced by the Insurance Company who you should consult with.

Security Safes are supplied standard but you can have added facilities and different sizes.

High Security Key Locking - Requires a key to open

Combination Locking - Mechanical keyless opening

Digital Electronic Locking - Keyless locking with audit trail

Dual Key /Combination Locking - Double security opening

Time Lock - Lock will only open at a pre set time.

Time Delay Lock - Safe will only open at a set time after the lock is opened.

Coffer - Internal secure compartment within the safe for management use only.

Deposit Chute - Deposit cash / keys without opening the safe

Envelope Slot - Deposit documents without opening the safe

Rotary Trap - Deposit large bulky items without opening the safe

Free Standing Safes are made of very heavy material but should be bolted to the floor to provide an extra higher level of security. High security safes have added protection against drilling and explosive attacks.

Safe Sizes

Safes come in 6 different sizes to suit nearly all applications.

The common safe size is around 560 mm or 22 inches high (just above knee height).

Approximate safe size descriptions in millimetres

Size	Height	Width	Depth
1	250	290	220
2	330	450	380
3	450	450	380
4	610	450	380
5	810	500	450
6	1200	600	510

Fire Resistant Safes and Cabinets

Fire Proof Safes, Cabinets and Cupboards although not as secure as security safes are designed to offer higher protection against fire, smoke damage and water penetration. These are more suitable for the protection of documents, files and data discs. They offer fire protection from 30 minutes upwards and are regulated by grading standards similar to security safes. Fire protection is offered for small data safes up to large filing cabinets. Fire safes can be secured by key, combination and digital locking depending on the requirement.



When choosing or specifying the most suitable safe for your needs, You might need to ask the following questions?

- What do you need to protect? Cash , Valuables or Data
- Do you need security, fire resistance or both?
- How much space do you have available?

Security Safes for cash or valuables

- What value needs to be protected?
- Is fire resistance needed as well?
- Does the safe need bolting down?
- Lock Option - Key or electronic?

Fire Resistant Safes for paper & data

- Which is most suitable - a safe, cupboard or filing cabinet?
- Are you securing paper or data discs?
- How many fire hours resistance is needed?
- How much storage space is required inside the safe?
- Lock Option - Key or electronic

Always check with the insurer to make sure they approve of your choice of safe!

