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Picks and Tips from Mike the Locksmith

August 2015- In This Issue:

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From the World of Mike-the-Locksmith

Greetings and Happy National Simplify your Life Week (1st week of August).

Did you know that key-less deadbolts, such as the Yale Real Living Touchscreen and the Yale Real-Living Push Button Deadbolt can simply your life?

Need to allow entry to your home to your visiting sister? Simple! Give her a code and no necessity to keep spare keys around. No need to give a key to the maid or dog-walker or to the kids (who sometimes lose keys). Have a temporary worker? Simple! Give him a code, not a key! Keys can be easily duplicated and cannot be easily controlled. With a key-less entry deadbolt, adding and deleting codes are a synch. Add Z-Wave technology, and remotely grant access or see who's entered your home or business in real time.

In observance of National Simplify your Life Week, get a key-less deadbolt for your home or business! Call us for pricing or visit our website.

In this issue. I'll talk about various smart locks on the market today. I'll introduce you to a new lock coming on the market soon, as well as a unique padlock.

Whether you are a small business owner or a homeowner, taking small measures can save you a lot of money and enhance your security.

Remember that my consultations, assessments and estimates are FREE, so don't hesitate to call. I'm here to help.

Be sure to visit my website:
www.mikes-locksmith.com

Which Smart Locks Should Secure Your Door?

Once upon a time, what set various locks apart was the quality of the construct and the shape the keys. Some locks had more secure locking mechanisms, but that was pretty much that. Today, with the advance of technology, locks that seemed like science fiction just yesterday are a reality.. Often these locks provide more security than standard locks. Here are some of the most popular types of high-tech locks



Touchscreen Locks

These door locks use a capacitive touch screen to lock and unlock the door. Residential models can hold up to 25 unique codes and commercial models can hold several hundred codes.

Bluetooth Deadbolts

As smartphones become more and more versatile, they are also becoming a part of our home security systems. For instance, there are a number of locks available today that are completely controlled by smartphone that you use. These locks are synched to phones using Bluetooth and they allow remote unlocking and locking of the door. Many such solutions also provide you with the ability to check if the door is locked remotely and they also warn you if someone tries to unlock the door while you are away.

Keypad Locks

These locks are a great improvement over standard locks. They employ a keypad which allows the user to type in a number combination in order to unlock and lock their door.

Biometric Locks

Biometric locks are arguably the most modern and the most sci-fi locks that you can buy these days. They truly seem like something out of movies. These locks read your fingerprint and only allow entry only if the print matches one of those in the database. It is safe to say that these are among the safest locks on the market since fingerprints are extremely difficult to forge.

Passkey Locks (and Variations)

Passkey locks are common in hotels; they employ cards for entry. Slip the card into a slot on the lock and the door opens. The principle is similar with passkey locks for residential and commercial properties.

Call: 240-506-7500

Remember, at Mike's Locksmith, I put my customers first by offering FREE, NO OBLIGATION, NO PRESSURE ESTIMATES UP-FRONT PRICING and NO TRAVEL FEES.

I look forward to serving you in the future.

Warm Regards,
Mike-the-Locksmith

Padlock That Unlocks Using Bluetooth and NFC Technology



The QuickLock is a padlock that unlocks using Bluetooth and NFC technology rather than a traditional key or combination. The lock can be paired with a Bluetooth-enabled smartphone, or users can unlock the device with the included NFC key fob or RF/NFC cards.

The Padlock is built tough. They are durable and easy to use by all ages and is made using durable "Die Cast Zinc Alloy" and has an amazing battery life up to 2 years.

Proximity Locks

Proximity locks are actually a subtype of smartphone-operated locks. They employ a variety of credentials - cards, wrist bands, ID badges, tags - to allow entry. These locks automatically register you as you get close to them with a valid credential and unlock automatically for you. More importantly, these locks can also be controlled remotely, via encrypted web-site/app and access logs can be viewed in real time.

Forget keys - Ola Smart Lock Uses a Fingerprint Sensor

The Ola Lock is slated to debut in March 2016.

Keys are so 20th century, right? Even using your phone to open a door seems kind of outdated. So how about using your fingerprint instead?

That's the thinking behind Ola, promising to be the work's first key-less and phone-less Bluetooth-enabled fingerprint smart lock.

It works remarkably simply. All you have to do is place your fingerprint directly on the handle and the door will unlock. There's no need to struggle to swipe a key-card, or place your entire hand on something - it just works.

Pretty much every "smart" lock that's hit the market in the past couple years has been designed to work with your smartphone, and to use either a Bluetooth or WI-Fi connection to determine when you've come within range of the door, which then unlocks. In theory it's not a half-bad idea, but in practice, it leaves a bit to be desired.

Wireless connections between lock and phone are often slow to establish, and sometimes just flat-out don't work, which isn't exactly the most convenient thing in the world when you're trying to get into your house or apartment. Wouldn't it be nice if you didn't have to fiddle with keys or phones at all?





National Simply Your Life Week - Special Exclusive Offer.

All Yale Real Living Push Button Deadbolts and Yale Real Living Touchscreen locks discounted.

Mention this newsletter and get yours at a discount. Yale Real Living Locks can be integrated with Z-wave.

Stop by our store at: 12410 Washington Ave, Rockville, MD 20852 (by the Twinbrook Metro Station) or call 240-506-7500 and mention this newsletter.

[Watch the Video Here](#)

Developed by a Beijing-based company, Ola is a Bluetooth-enabled entry lock with a fingerprint scanner built right into its handle. While it does have a dedicated app-duh, it's a smart lock-its role is fairly limited beyond the initial setup process. Ola's developers say you don't need the phone once you've scanned your lock's unique QR code and registered your fingerprint; you can unlock your door in less than a second by simply touching the sensor.

Why this matters: Nearly every established brand-and quite a few newcomers-have entered this rapidly growing market, each with its own idea about how a smart lock should function. Some locks require you to take out your phone and tap an on-screen button to unlock your door, others are equipped with a proximity sensor for hands-free entry, and still other rely on keypads on the lock itself. The problem with these existing approaches is their reliance on either smartphones-things that are known to be forgotten on occasion, run out of juice, and even become lost-or the users' ability to memorize a pass-code. Ola bucks that trend with a solution that seems to be both convenient and remarkably simple.

The app isn't entirely useless, though. It too can be used for unlocking if that's what you want. But why would anyone buying this lock want to go through the whole rigmarole of taking out the phone, ensuring Bluetooth is on, firing up the app, and tapping madly to gain entry?

Well, let's not overlook the need to grant access to family, friends and other visitors every now and then. You can generate temporary keys for them using the app, allowing them to unlock your door via Bluetooth.

Ola is a complete lock, and not an add-on for your existing setup, and will be available in both mortise and latch-bolt variants. It has a capacitive touch fingerprint sensor (developed by the Swedish company Fingerprint Cards) that uses a radio frequency signal to scan sub-dermal fingerprint patterns. For added security, the scanned fingerprints are stored only inside Ola. There are four AA batteries that should last you 2-3 years; but should they die on you all of a sudden, there's a backup set that can activated with a single button. And if that too fails, there's a micro-USB port for powering the unit from an external battery.

It's simple to use and very secure, thanks to there being no chance of lock bumping or lock picking. You can use the Ola app to set up temporary keys for your friends and family too, adding to the convenience and security factor.

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