

The correct way to lubricate a lock

Extracted and edited from an article by David Snell in the *Daily Telegraph* Property Clinic March 31st 2007.

A reader writes; I am frequently told that locks should be lubricated by means of a graphite puffer. The DIY stores which have replaced good old ironmongers look at me as though I am on a different planet when I ask for one and they suggest WD40. Where are these puffers available?

Most of us could be forgiven for assuming that WD40 will do the trick as far as the lock is concerned, but pumping the keyhole full of such liquid lubricants could be injurious to your door finish; the oil could even run out on to the floor of your garage or worse the carpets when used on a lock indoors.

The Graphite Trading Company supplies a graphite puffer called an Edelgraphit and the information on their website says that, if used regularly, it keeps all locks lubricated and working smoothly. It also guards against sticking and dirt build up, prevents lock outs, wear and corrosion. It is greaseless, odourless and weatherproof and each puffer contains 45 grams of superfine, natural, graphite powder.

I can remember my days back in the 1970's working in an ironmongers' selling a lot of these puffers and cannot understand why they are not more universally available or promoted nowadays - Webmaster.

Graphite powder is available from these two online sellers at a lower price than the Edelgraphit product above;

Retail Sales: www.onlinegaragedoorspares.com

Trade Sales: www.sparesmaster.co.uk