



HIGH END HOMES

With the demand for better, more efficient homes and appliances, it's no surprise we now have remotes to unlock our homes! Yes, just like cars of old, homes with manual key lock systems are fast becoming a "thing of the past". I can remember when my parents vowed they would never pay for a remote for their car...they said, "We can unlock our car with a key-how lazy could they be?!?", with indignation in their voices. But, now that 30 years have lapsed, you couldn't force them to buy a new car without it! They love being able to push a button and have the doors or hatch open for them and being able to set the groceries down without propping them on the side of the van while fumbling for keys. It's almost comical to watch when someone's car remote dies - we've almost forgotten the old fashioned way to unlock our doors...with a key!

No surprise, our homes have followed suit. Soon the next generation won't even remember using a key to unlock their home's door. They will have only experienced a remote, just like many of us with our cars. It's just another step forward in home automation. My own grandchildren already ask if they can unlock our front door with the remote. It's a novelty now, but soon they won't even notice it.

High end homebuilder's are embracing this stand-alone system because it doesn't require any difficult and expensive integration software or technical computer work; it's "plug and play" if you will. By installing a simple 12 volt electric strike in the jamb of any door (except sliding doors), and a small control box near the door (in a coat closet near the door seems to be the most common place), gives the homeowner instant remote access up to 50 yards away! Yes, 150 foot range. That means you can unlock the door for the kids running ahead of you into the house, or you don't have to fumble with the keys while trying to prop your groceries, mail or packages against the house while you try to turn the key and unlock your door. Just a simple press of the remote and a push on the door gives you immediate entry. Because the unlocking is happening on the jamb of the door, turning the handle is no longer necessary either!

The Amesbury Locca unlocking systems aren't just for convenience though. They also provide immediate entry in panic situations where you need to get in quickly...or, just getting in out of the rain in a hurry. Forget trying to insert the keys in the rain-just press your remote and push the door open! You've heard, "necessity is the mother of invention"...I believe it's true. Recently I had a young couple tell me about the Sure-Touch remote they had sewn into their son's backpack so he could let himself in after school. This way they didn't have to worry about the door being unlocked during the time he was home alone after school. Once he had pressed his remote and pushed through the door and shut it, he was safe and the door remained locked behind him. Now, instead of wondering if he had remembered to lock the door after himself, they know the door never gets unlocked and he won't lose the remote because it's sewn into his backpack. You can't do that with a key!

So, whether you are looking for the latest convenience for yourself or a loved one with a disability, arthritis, or a child, you may want to consider joining the next wave of the home automation trend....we'll all look back in 30 years and say, "Remember when we used to have metal keys to unlock our doors? What a hoot that was!"