

How to Determine Backset & Handing

Adams Rite Storefront Door Selection Guide

WHAT IS DOOR HANDING?

Door handing describes the location of hinges and direction the door swings. Determining the correct handing ensures you order the proper lock orientation for your door.

DETERMINING HANDING

Step 1: Stand OUTSIDE the building facing the door

Look at the door from the exterior side where the lock will be used.

Step 2: Identify hinge location

Look at which side the door hinges are on.

Standard Handing (Door Swings In):

- **LEFT HAND (LH):** Hinges on the left side → Handle on right side
- **RIGHT HAND (RH):** Hinges on the right side → Handle on left side

Reverse Handing (Door Swings Out):

- **LEFT HAND REVERSE (LHR):** Hinges on left, door swings out
- **RIGHT HAND REVERSE (RHR):** Hinges on right, door swings out

HANDING AT A GLANCE

Handing	Hinges On	Door Opens	Handle Location
Left Hand (LH)	Left	Inward (Push In)	Right Side
Right Hand (RH)	Right	Inward (Push In)	Left Side
Left Hand Reverse (LHR)	Left	Outward (Pull Out)	Right Side
Right Hand Reverse (RHR)	Right	Outward (Pull Out)	Left Side

WHAT IS BACKSET?

Backset is the distance measured from the edge of the door to the center of the lock bolt hole. It determines how far from the door edge your lock will be positioned.

MEASURING BACKSET

How to Measure:

1. Look at the door edge where the lock is currently installed (or where it will be)
2. Measure from the edge of the door perpendicular inward
3. Stop at the CENTER of the lock bolt hole (not the edge)
4. This measurement is your backset

Common Adams Rite Backsets:

Backset	Used For	Common Application
31/32" (0.969")	Narrow aluminum stiles	Modern storefront doors
1-1/8" (1.125")	Standard stiles	Most commercial doors
1-1/2" (1.5")	Thick or wooden stiles	Premium/heavy-duty installations

ADAMS RITE LOCK SPECIFICATIONS**Ordering Format:**

When ordering Adams Rite locks, specify both handing and backset together. For example:

MS1850S-050-LH = MS1850S Deadlock, 31/32" backset, Left Hand

MS1850S-150-RHR = MS1850S Deadlock, 1-1/8" backset, Right Hand Reverse

8500-RH-1.125 = 8500 Exit Device, Right Hand, 1-1/8" backset

Always verify the correct combination before ordering to ensure proper fit and operation.

COMMON ORDERING MISTAKES

Mistake	Result	Solution
Measuring to bolt edge, not center	Lock positioned incorrectly	Measure to CENTER of bolt hole
Confusing handing with swing direction	Wrong orientation	Think: Which SIDE are hinges?
Not checking reverse handing	Lock faces wrong way	Confirm door swings IN or OUT
Assuming all doors use same backset	Lock won't fit properly	Measure YOUR specific door

NEED HELP?

Contact Lock Depot's knowledgeable team for assistance determining the correct handing and backset for your application.

Phone: 877-365-5625 | **Website:** www.lock-depot.com/adams-rite/