



HANDFORGED
TRADITIONAL
IRONMONGERY

A GUIDE TO: *Buying and Fitting Thumbblatches*

The principle of the thumbblatch hasn't changed in centuries, although the designs and styles have. Typically used on plank ledged and braced doors they offer a traditional look and feel to any type of home.

Listed below are the various parts that come in our Thumbblatch sets and their different uses. See over for full fitting instructions but bear in mind that a certain amount of carpentry/joinery skills would be needed to fit one although, not completely necessary.

THUMBLATCH



IMAGE 1



IMAGE 2



Handle/Thumb Bar - Fitted to one side of the door (see image 1) to allow the user to depress the thumbblatch. The thumb piece or thumb bar passes through the door which in-turn raises the latch bar off the keep.

Latch Bar - This is the horizontal bar that is fitted to the other side of the door (image 2) and is screw fixed loosely at one end to allow the upward movement of the thumb bar. This allows the latch bar to be lifted off the keep from either side of the door.

Staple Pin or Screw-on-Staple - These are used to restrict the movement of the horizontal latch bar (see image 2 - screw-on-staple used). Either can be used for this purpose with the other, unused product, to be discarded.

Frame Keep Pin - The keep is driven into the door frame, screw fixed for safety and is used to hold the door/thumbblatch closed.

Fixing Screws - All matching fixing screws are provided in the set.

Disclaimer: These fitting instructions are designed as a guide only and no responsibility can be taken by From The Anvil or it's stockists regarding damage to your property or product. It is advised that you seek professional advice before attempting this process.



Measure the height at which you want the thumb latch to sit. The traditional height for fitting is about 1300mm from the floor but can be fitted at any height that suits your needs.

Offer up the latch bar and screw-on-staple to your door ready for step 2.



With the bar and staple in place mark all screw holes needed to fix in place using a pencil.



With the latch bar perfectly horizontal place a mark along the underside where you want the thumb bar to pass through the door.

This placement/position can be done by eye but ideally within an inch of the vertical staple.



Drill pilot holes for all of your pencil marks on the door taking care not to drill all the way through the plank.

Drill a single hole where you made the mark for the thumb bar in preparation for steps 5 and 6.



Drill two more pilot holes, one above and one below the existing hole designated for the thumb bar to aid with step 6.



Using a 6mm drill bit carefully drill all the way through the plank door using the pilot holes as guides.

This can be finished off using the drill to cut out the rest of the slot or alternatively by using a chisel. Sand off any excess wood for a nice smooth finish.



Fix the Screw-on-staple (or staple pin if using) to the surface of the door using the pilot holes you have drilled and the fixing screws provided. Next is to fit the latch bar. Do this by passing it under the staple and loose fitting it using the larger screw provided. It needs to be loosely fitted to allow for movement of the bar.



Pass the thumb bar through your door so that it is level on the other side. In doing so it will bring the handle up to the surface of the plank to get your final placement (may take some fine tuning to get it just right).



This is how it should look if following all the steps to this point.

With the door open it may be easier to adjust your handle position which will in turn give you a level thumb bar. When you are happy with the position move onto step 10.



Now your handle position has been chosen it is time to drill a number of pilot holes to allow easier fixing with the screws provided.

Remember to not drill all the way through the door as any holes would be seen from the other side.



This is how your door should be when/if you remove your handle. Note the three fixing holes and the larger slot for the thumb bar to pass through.



Screw fix the handle to the surface of your door, taking care when fixing screws so there is no slipping and scratching of any surfaces.



STEP 13

The next steps are to get position for and fit the frame keep pin. This pin holds the door in place and needs to be solidly fitted as its the part which will get the most knocks.

With the door in the closed position place the keep in-line with the bottom of latch bar.



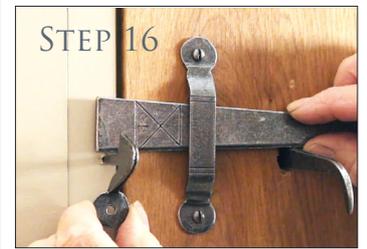
STEP 14

Make a pencil cross mark where the keep needs to sit. Not too close to the edge of the door frame as this part needs to be hammered in and fixed firmly.



STEP 15

Once the position has been decided drill a pilot hole to aid with fitting the frame keep pin.



STEP 16

Place keep into pre-drilled hole and check latch bar will sit perfectly horizontally when the keep is driven all the way into the frame.



STEP 17

Ideally this next step should be completed with a rubber/plastic hammer so as not to damage any of the finishes. It can be done with a metal hammer but please take extra care when fixing so as not to damage the finish.



STEP 18

You must remember to leave enough space for the thickness of the latch bar to sit comfortably (not too tight) against the door frame.

Once hammered into place please screw fix to the frame to provide extra strength.



STEP 19

So now you are almost complete and its time to try out your new From The Anvil Thumb latch.

Try it a few times and see how it works. You may find a few adjustments or tweaks are needed to perfect the fit.



STEP 20

Depending on how the job is to be finished you may be adding architrave to your door frame to neaten everything up. If this is the case then offer up the architrave to your door and position it over the end of your latch bar and keep (if necessary).



STEP 21

Lightly draw the position of your keep and latch (at its highest position) so that you can scribe or route out the shape from the architrave.

See finished photo opposite for an example.



The finished job.

There are a number of styles of thumb latches in our range and also a number of ways you can fit them (every carpenter will have different methods) but the basic process will be the same as listed here.

If you have basic carpentry/tool skills then please feel free to have a go, if not then seek professional advice to get the best results. You do pay for quality after all.

