

by Alan J. Pierce, EdD

### Brinks' Home Security Push Pull or Rotate Locks

All product manufacturers like to emphasize the visual appeal of their products. This Brinks Home Security lock basically looks just like any other key-in-knob lock. It is definitely not its appearance that makes this lock special. What is different about this lock is the way you can open your door when the lock is not locked. From the outside you can just push the handle in with your elbow, finger, or a full body bump to open your door. You can also turn the knob the old fashioned way to gain access to your home. See photo 1.

If you can just push the handle in to open your door when you are outside of your home,



Photo 1  
From the outside you can push the handle in to open the door.  
From the inside you can pull the handle to open the door.

what creative new way can you open your door when you are on the inside wanting to get out? From the inside, when the lock is not locked, you can pull on the handle to open your door or just twist the knob the old fashioned way. See photo 1 again. This Brinks' key-in-knob diverges from the old way of doing things by giving you the ability to open your door in a new way. This key-in-knob lock is designed for use only on doors that open in. The installation literature emphasizes this fact. It would be physically impossible to push in on a door handle to open a door that has to move in the opposite direction.

If you have a handicap that makes it difficult for you to turn a knob, this lock definitely is something that you will want to look into. The new opening function might appeal to you if for any reason you want a simpler way to open your door than turning a knob or lever. The opening feature is disabled when the lock is locked. You need to use your key or turn the

thumb turn in the middle of the inside knob to unlock the lock. When locked, the inside knob cannot be turned or pushed to unlock your door for a fast exit in an emergency. See photo 2.

Brinks, in my opinion, would have hit a homerun with their new lock design if the inside knob was always free to open the door without unlocking the thumb turn.

With easy egress this lock could be the perfect replacement for anyone with a handicap that makes it difficult for them to open a door. This is definitely a product where a video can help you understand how it works. This Brinks' video shows you many situations where this lock could simplify your entry and exit from your home. The video also shows you how to install their locks.



Photo 2  
You cannot push or turn this knob if the thumb turn is in the locking position.

Brinks Home Security

### Brinks Home Security Youtube video



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ovAYVFSQKmU>

This video shows the lock in action and how to install it.

Alan is co-author of *Introduction to Technology* Glencoe McGraw-Hill 2010 and a *TechDirections Magazine* Columnist . Visit [www.technologytoday.us](http://www.technologytoday.us) for past columns, reviews, and resources.