

# KNOW YOUR ALARM SYSTEM COMPONENTS

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## RX40 PIR

- Good PIR – very stable. Installed across the globe;
- Reads temperature;
- As soon as there is a change in said temperature, alarm is triggered;
- Unfortunately criminals have learnt to mask their temperature, i.e. if their heat signature falls within with the ambient temperature of the room, they may get past the RX40 PIR.

## Pet Friendly PIR

- Works on the same principles as the RX40;
- Difference is it has two sets of rays;
- Both sets need to be cut for alarm to trigger;
- This therefore allows for a small dog to only cut bottom rays and not trigger the alarm;
- Downside is criminals have learnt they may crawl past the sensor by only triggering bottom rays.



## Cloakwise PIR

- Specifically designed for criminals trying to mask their temperature to get past the sensor;
- Sends out waves of microwaves;
- Works on movement, not reading temperature as the other sensors do;
- Very sensitive. Recommend to try have at least one of them in the house;
- Preferably the front. Therefore can be armed in your “Stay” mode.

## Fixed Panic Buttons

- Most important part of any security system;
- Irrespective of other measures such as alarms, burglar bars etc.;
- Used in an emergency;
- In conjunction with panic remotes.



## Magnetic Contacts

- Regulation still requires you have them on all exit doors;
- Not required on windows;
- Offers a false sense of security;
- Easy to bypass by removing window pane, leaving the contact sitting on the frame, undisturbed.

### Keysafe

- This is to store key or remote for gate access;
- Ideal if you have high walls, spikes or electric fencing;
- Allows emergency services entry to property;
- Main ones being security, paramedics and fire brigade;
- You also get a Digipad which allows access by means of a keyed in code which opens a gate/door. This option needs electrical power.



### Smoke Detector

- There should be one in every house;
- Triggers the alarm, therefore warning occupants timeously. For instance, if the family is asleep or if nobody is home and pets are left indoors;
- Let's not forget all your valuables eg . photos - no insurance can replace these after a fire.

### Infra Red Strip Beams

- Works in pairs. Two aluminium poles "looking" at each other;
- Modern design;
- Perfect up against the perimeter of your house covering doors, sliding doors and windows;
- Cannot crawl under or over.



### In Conclusion....

Other than the above, there are plenty of other security components available and new ones being designed and launched to market continuously. It is extremely important to understand their capabilities, as well as their shortcomings. Evaluate each according to their purpose in your own situation.

Buying a security system "off the shelf" invariably leads to problems in the longer term.

It is important that whoever installs your security system is SAIDSA accredited, as these installers have a comprehensive understanding of the required regulations.

Do not use "fly by night" installers. They may seem a lot cheaper but what guarantees are you getting? Weigh up the pros and cons and remember that you are protecting your family and valuables. Neither are replaceable, especially not for the sake of saving money on a substandard alarm system.