

Physical security measures form an integral part of homes



Physical security measures are increasingly forming an integral part of a home's armour against potential criminal activity, but are often retrofitted and compromised by inadequate planning. Trellidor offers a planning service for new buildings or alterations that ensures barrier security is unobtrusive, highly effective and adequately catered for in the building's design.

"Forward planning helps to avoid potential problems such as window recesses that are too small to fit barriers inside the window frame and doorways that are significantly reduced in size when sliding security is stacked to one side," says Trellidor brand and public relations manager Charlene Erasmus.

Attractive design features such as large expanses of glass, double volume entrance areas and very large front doors that swivel open all present challenges in terms of security and can be better protected by physical barriers if taken into account early on.

Other security design problems that are seldom considered include external doors that open inwards, forcing the fitting of barriers to the outside rather than the more secure option of an internal fit; burglar guards that do not conform to the maximum opening sizes allowed by insurance companies; and special needs such as wheelchairs that should be facilitated by recessed security gate tracks.

Trellidor security consultants have faced many of these predicaments when fitting fixed and sliding security barriers to homes and offices, and frequently share their experiences with architects, builders and homeowners. ■