HOW TO DRILL A EURO CYLINDER / UPVC DOOR LOCKS

If you’re a home owner and you’ve lost the key to a particular here’s a basic guide to drilling the lock open. This is a basic 5 pin tumbler euro cylinder often found in UPVC doors.

So here’s the lock 100% in tact minus the operating key, first of all I’ve squirted some wd40 down the keyway to make sure the pins inside are all working freely. It’s worth mentioning at this time that you need to take your time and relax, there’s no point in rushing because you want to get it right first time without complication. Also wear eye protection if you have some, there’s going to be some brass chips flying about.

I’m going to make a dimple with a centre punch in the area indicated. A few light taps with a punch and hammer should do it. If you don’t have a punch a steel nail makes a good substitute.
With the dimple in place I’m going to start drilling confident that the drill’s going to stay firmly centred on my dimple mark and not wander or skid off.

The drill hole is nicely centred in the section that houses the pins. Make sure your drill bit is nice and sharp so that the drilling edge is easily removing the brass without pushing too heavily on the drill bit.

The drill bit has now encountered the first pin chamber, when this happens you’ll hear the drilling noise change more to a screeching type of noise and you’ll feel a jolt down the drill. It’s important now that you count the pin chambers as you’re drilling through them. Also I recommend you clean out each pin chamber as you come to them.
I’m using a sewing needle to push the pins down into the drilled hole. It’s an everyday item that most people have lying about.

Here’s a key pin that’s been pushed down into the drill hole with the needle, you should get a feel for how far you have to drill in to reach each chamber. You need to stop drilling at chamber 5 make 100% sure all the pins and debris are removed then check the lock to see if it’ll open most times it will, if it won’t drill very carefully to see if there’s a 6th chamber if there isn’t you haven’t fully removed all the debris from the first 5 chambers.

5 chambers successfully drilled you can now rotate the plug in the direction needed to open the door. It’s of paramount importance you drill NO FURTHER than the last pin chamber otherwise you risk damaging the cam assembly that has the notch attached to operate the Multi Point Locking Gearbox.