OUR PAST: A LEGACY OF INNOVATION

The small format interchangeable core is still in use today. More than that, it is the basis for every other interchangeable core design currently being manufactured.
BEST solutions and components form the pinnacle of today’s toughest mechanical security solutions. Our unparalleled quality and engineering make us a top choice of distributors and customers worldwide.

Our products are built on the following pillars:

**QUALITY**
We design our locks to exceed expectations. With tight tolerances and top-quality materials, our keys and cores set the standard for security and functionality. BEST made the first small format interchangeable core in 1921, setting an industry standard that has been maintained for nearly a century. The small format interchangeable core also makes it simple and convenient to upgrade to BEST at a pace that works for you. Best of all, with the toughest mechanical hardware, BEST promises both durability and performance.

**CUSTOMIZATION AND KEY CONTROL**
With a unique range of functionality and a superior masterkey system, BEST provides numerous combining options for a robust approach to your security.

**FUTURE-READY**
Our engineers use forward-thinking design for our hardware, cores and key systems to combat today’s challenges, as well as anticipate possible threats in the future.
The unique way a key and core come together is the foundation of how every opening is secured. With our unique combinating and keying, our distributors can ensure keys and cores work together in a way that not only ensures the integrity of every opening, but also makes them easy to maintain and manage over the life of the product.

We understand that choosing a key system is about more than the hardware installed on doors. It’s about deploying a security philosophy with various product offerings that allow the customer to manage various access levels, permission rights and key management processes.

At BEST, we have patented and non-patented key systems that help you implement a robust and responsive security protocol. And best of all, we have significant experience in the industry to help you develop a system and approach that is custom-tailored to your facility and your people.
### KEY TYPES

- **1A Standard**
- **1A Long Blade**
- **1A Long Nose**
- **2A Round Bow** Available with/without chain hole
- **4A Access Bow** Comes with/without window for plastic insert
- **1AP Premium** For use with 1CP core
- **3AP Rectangular Bow**
- **3A Rectangular Bow with Extractor Key**
- **9A Blockout Blade** with Extractor Key

### KEY ANATOMY

- Keyway designation
- Chain hole
- Key cuts
- Key stop tip
- Key blade
- Keyway milling
- Series keymark code
- Key bow
- Serialization code
At the foundation of every BEST high-quality key system is the core—one that is durable, flexible and easy to maintain. We invented the small format interchangeable core (SFIC) in 1921. Over time, our SFIC has only become more responsive to facilities and door openings as we’ve perfected it for smoother operation, more predictable performance and guaranteed longevity.

**BEST cores are an industry standard for a number of reasons:**

- **Tight tolerances** to provide the highest level of mechanical security and enhance the integrity of the lock
- **6- and 7-pin options** to allow for a hybrid solution and ensure greatest number of key combinations
- **Multiple shear lines** allow you to build multi-level access
- **Brass alloy construction** that is tough, strong and corrosion-resistant
- **Individually capped chambers** for easier maintenance and service
- **BEST-constructed pin segments** that help control tolerance and quality
- **Stringent quality control** that ensures every part of the core and lock meet our industry-high standards
- **Warranty** that stands behind every product we manufacture

Our cores are hardware specific. Please see our price book for available core options.
CORMAX™ is a premier patented key system that protects against unauthorized duplication of keys through 2027. Its unique patented key and side pin design ensure the highest level of mechanical security throughout a facility. Plus, because the CORMAX M Series operates on CORMAX and Standard cores, it is an ideal hybrid solution for retrofit projects. Facilities can add CORMAX to the perimeter and other high value openings, while maintaining their existing key system.

**INCREASED SECURITY**
Patented through 2027, CORMAX delivers a higher security key system. Unauthorized duplication of keys is prohibited.

**GEOGRAPHIC EXCLUSIVITY**
CORMAX offers several levels of geographic exclusivity, including national exclusivity, depending on customer needs. All geographic exclusivity levels are protected against unauthorized duplication and distribution.

**FLEXIBILITY**
CORMAX seamlessly fits into any manufacturer’s locking hardware requiring a small format interchangeable core (SFIC). CORMAX allows for customized masterkeying and quick core or key changes. CORMAX is also compatible with existing BEST service equipment—including standard-issue key cutting equipment—so there is no need to invest more money in a new key cutter or combinating kit.

**SERVICE OPTIONS**
With CORMAX, you can choose to handle service through our trusted network of distributors, or service your system in-house.
CORMAX X SERIES AND M SERIES

M SERIES
M Series keys operate both CORMAX and BEST Standard cores (backward compatibility) with J, K, L and M keyways, allowing for easier management of a hybrid keying solution. Available in large bow, long blade and long nose key blank, the M Series works with special applications and is designed to enable seamless, phase-in upgrades in large facilities and multi-building campuses.

X SERIES
X Series keyways offer even higher key duplication protection. Their thicker key blanks and larger bow provide extra strength and easier handling. The X Series is recommended for large facilities in multi-building campuses.

Key Control
Special slot at tip of key to actuate side pin which prevents illegal duplication.

Enhanced Security
Patented side pin engages slot in core body, preventing rotation unless the proper CORMAX key is inserted.
For building projects where mechanical security is used to complement electronic access control, or key duplication doesn’t need to be managed, BEST offers patented and non-patented key system options—all backed by BEST standards for quality, durability and reliability.

BEST STANDARD
For nearly 100 years, BEST Standard key systems have provided security, durability and performance in a wide range of applications. Engineered to the same high standards as our patented systems, BEST Standard cores are made to the same strict tolerances and high standards of excellence in manufacturing as our patented options to ensure quality, durability and performance you can trust.

BEST Standard key systems are durable and offer a wider range of options, providing the precise, carefully managed masterkey applications that make BEST one of the industry leaders for masterkeying. We actively support new and existing BEST Standard systems.

BEST PREMIUM
BEST Premium utilizes our thickest key blank and is an ideal option for heavy traffic applications, making them more robust and far less prone to breakage and damage than other options. BEST Premium keys are larger and heavier than standard keys, so they hold up to strenuous daily use. Additionally, Premium options employ a paracentric keyway (keyline crosses center of core) that enhances security.

BEST Premium key systems are backed by BEST’s exceptional depth of masterkey expertise, offering high-level control over assets and facilities. Managing our Premium key systems is simple as they are fully supported by BEST and our network of distributors.
BEST RETROFIT KEYING OPTIONS

BEST PREFERRED
The BEST Preferred system is a patented system through 2024. Backed by BEST’s masterkey and key management expertise, the Preferred system is backwards compatible with all BEST Peaks systems.

BEST PEAKS
BEST Peaks provides quality, durability and performance.

140 Series: This series is upgradeable with BEST Preferred components, allowing it to be effectively used as part of a hybrid solution in many retrofit projects. Additionally, the 140 Series can be used to secure facilities utilizing other manufacturers’ hardware. All cylinders can be keyed into the same system, providing you the ability to operate all the locks at your facility using a single key, regardless of the lock manufacturer.

150 Series: For traditional BEST Interchangeable core applications, the 150 Series offers the security and convenience of a small format interchangeable core that will operate a wide variety of locking hardware, including cylindrical locks, padlocks, deadbolts and cabinet locks.
With a mechanical key system, the level of security is determined by masterkey control. A masterkey system enables facilities of any size to manage the building by defining access by person and by area in increasing levels of complexity.

Since BEST invented the standard for masterkey systems, there is no company better suited to develop a custom-designed, scalable masterkey solution. For every BEST system, we apply our expertise to help you optimize key code application and maximize the life of the system. Our proprietary masterkey software—still unique in the industry today—generates masterkey codes and prevents cross keying to ensure the security and integrity of each door combined into a BEST system. Additionally, in the event of key loss, a core can be rekeyed without total replacement, making it a responsive, low-maintenance, convenient solution that is a valuable investment for any building.

Additionally, our end user key control software available for purchase helps with the tedious task of managing your key and core records in today’s environment, in which multiple people in different locations may need to access the data simultaneously.

**The BEST System**

In some cases, a mechanical system will be the sole security system. In others, it will complement an electronic access control system. Our BEST keying specialists can help determine if you need a patented system like CORMAX, or one that is non-patented but still provides solid security, such as our BEST Premium or Standard systems.
IMPORTANT QUESTIONS TO MASTERKEYING

NEW CONSTRUCTION
What level of security do you want?
Is it important to manage key duplication?
How many levels of security do you need?
Do you have high employee/tenant turnover rates?
How much is mechanical security a part of your strategy?
How will keys be managed and how will the system be maintained over the long term?
Is it a single building or multiple buildings or locations?

RETROFIT
What type of key system is currently in place?
Why do you want to change or upgrade it?
How many levels of security do you need?
Do you have high employee/tenant turnover rates?
How do keys get duplicated now? Is that working?
How do you want to manage key control as well as long-term maintenance?
With access to BEST expertise and resources for the life of the system, it’s easy to see why our customers stay loyal to the brand. Every aspect of our small format interchangeable cores and key systems—from engineering and manufacturing, to key control and long-term service—has been carefully designed with the security of the end user in mind.

**UNPARALLELED QUALITY**
BEST adheres to tight tolerances and the strictest manufacturing standards. With this laser focus on quality, we’re able to consistently manufacture high-performance products. Our design and manufacturing practices give customers confidence they are receiving the highest level of key control and security.

**TIGHT KEY CONTROL**
When you choose a BEST key system, you not only get superior quality, durability and ease of use, but also access to the world’s leading security infrastructure. Unauthorized duplication of keys is prohibited.

**LEADING MASTERKEY MANAGEMENT**
With BEST, select distributors can have highly-controlled access to our proprietary web-based masterkey software. This software generates masterkey codes that are designed to meet the exact requirements of a facility. Additionally, it ensures our distributors are following BEST masterkeying standards as they support customers and ensure the integrity and security of your BEST key system.

**EASE OF SERVICE**
Our team of dedicated key system specialists will support you and your BEST systems long after purchase. You receive continued masterkey support for the life of the system—completely free of charge. Plus, because of our smart design, when keys are lost, our interchangeable core makes it possible to change lock combinations with minimal effort and cost. Simply remove the core with your system’s control key, insert a new core, issue new keys and update your records. There’s no need for any lock disassembly or laborious service calls. Finally, with BEST’s self-service package, customers have the capability of combinating or recombinating cores and cutting new keys quickly and economically without compromising security. Keys are cut from registered codes on the combinatory so every BEST key is an original.
OPTIONS FOR KEYS

CORMAX M SERIES CORE (1CM) / KEY

CORMAX X SERIES CORE (1CX) / KEY

BEST PREMIUM CORE (1CP) / KEY

BEST STANDARD CORE (1C) / KEY

BEST PREFERRED CORE (1CF) / KEY

BEST PEAKS CORE (1CB)

SFIC CORE

BHMA A156.5 GRADE 1 CERTIFIED

PATENTED THROUGH (YEAR)

UNIQUE KEYWAYS AVAILABLE

MULTI MILL KEYS

KEY MATERIAL THICKNESS

LARGE ROUND BOW (2A)

LARGE RECTANGULAR BOW (3A)

ACCESS BOW OPTION (4A)

LONG BLADE OPTION (8)

LONG NOSE OPTION (N)

SPECIAL KEY STAMP OPTION

KEY SERIALIZATION OPTION (S)

"NO KEYWAY DESIGNATION OPTION (NKW)

BLOCKOUT BLADE (9A)

A2 SYSTEM

A4 SYSTEM

5 PIN OPTION

6 PIN OPTION

7 PIN OPTION

FINISHES AVAILABLE

KEY TRAP OPTION (K)

EXTENDED PLUG OPTION (2C)

EURO OPTION (3C)

HIGH SECURITY OPTION (5C)

SLIDING DOOR LOCK OPTION (6C)

5E CYLINDER OPTION

DRILL RESISTANT (D) (B=D+P)

PICK RESISTANT OPTION (P)

WEAR RESISTANT OPTION (W)

CORE FACE MARK OPTION

CORE SIDE MARK OPTION

140 SERIES (CK)

CONVENTION CYLINDER OPTION (3400 SERIES)

LFIC (6000 SERIES)

PUNCH STYLE CUTTER

SFIC CONSTRUCTION CORE (1CC)
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MAXIMIZING CONVENIENCE. OPTIMIZING SECURITY.

We have the equipment you need to service keys and cores over the life of the key system. From key combiners and stamp cutters to core capping/decapping press and core/key marking blocks, we have the necessary equipment available to ensure you can combinate a BEST core and generate new keys quickly.*

*See service equipment manual for a complete list of options.
HOW CAN WE HELP?

If you have an existing BEST system
Call the BEST Customer Service Group at 855-365-2407.

If you have an existing system by another manufacturer
Contact your local BEST sales agent or find an agent near you at www.BESTAccess.com/contactus.asp.

If you have a new construction facility
Find a local BEST distributor by calling the BEST Customer Service Group at 855-365-2407.

If you need an order shipped quickly
Orders for items from our QuickShip catalog placed by your BEST distributor before 12 pm EST ship out the same day. Learn more online at www.STANLEYSecurity.com/QuickShip.

If you need specifications of any product
Contact your local BEST distributor for detailed specifications on any BEST product or solution. Our certified distributors can help you find the option that suits your application.