

keyed different padlocks

Keyed different means that each lock is opened by its own unique key. They're often best utilized as a personal lock assigned to authorized personnel, which ensures each employee has exclusive control over his or her lockout padlock. This keying system is ideal for simple lockout applications dealing with a manageable number of energy isolation points. Each facility defines "manageable" differently, and it's why every lockout program is unique.

keyed alike padlocks

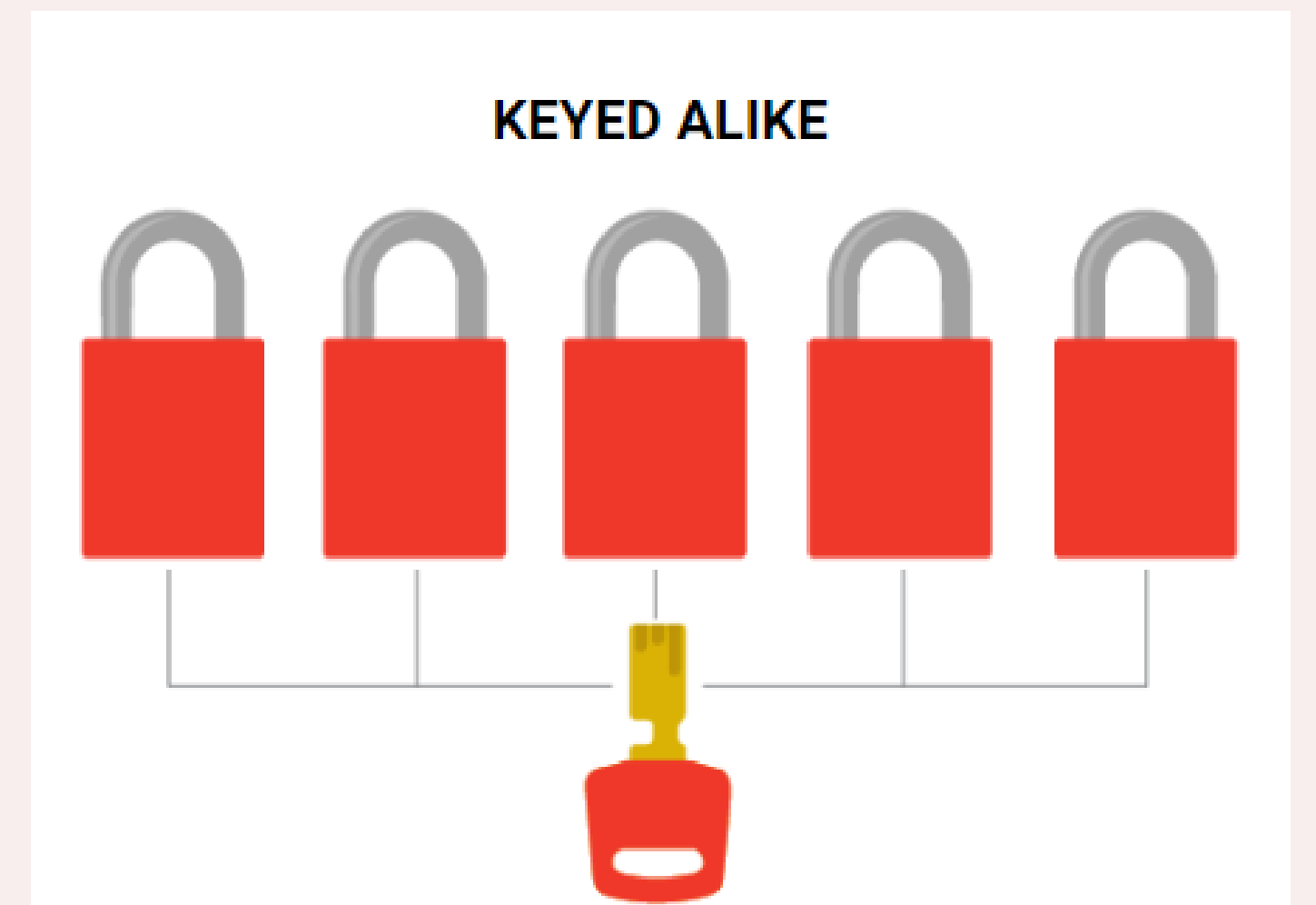
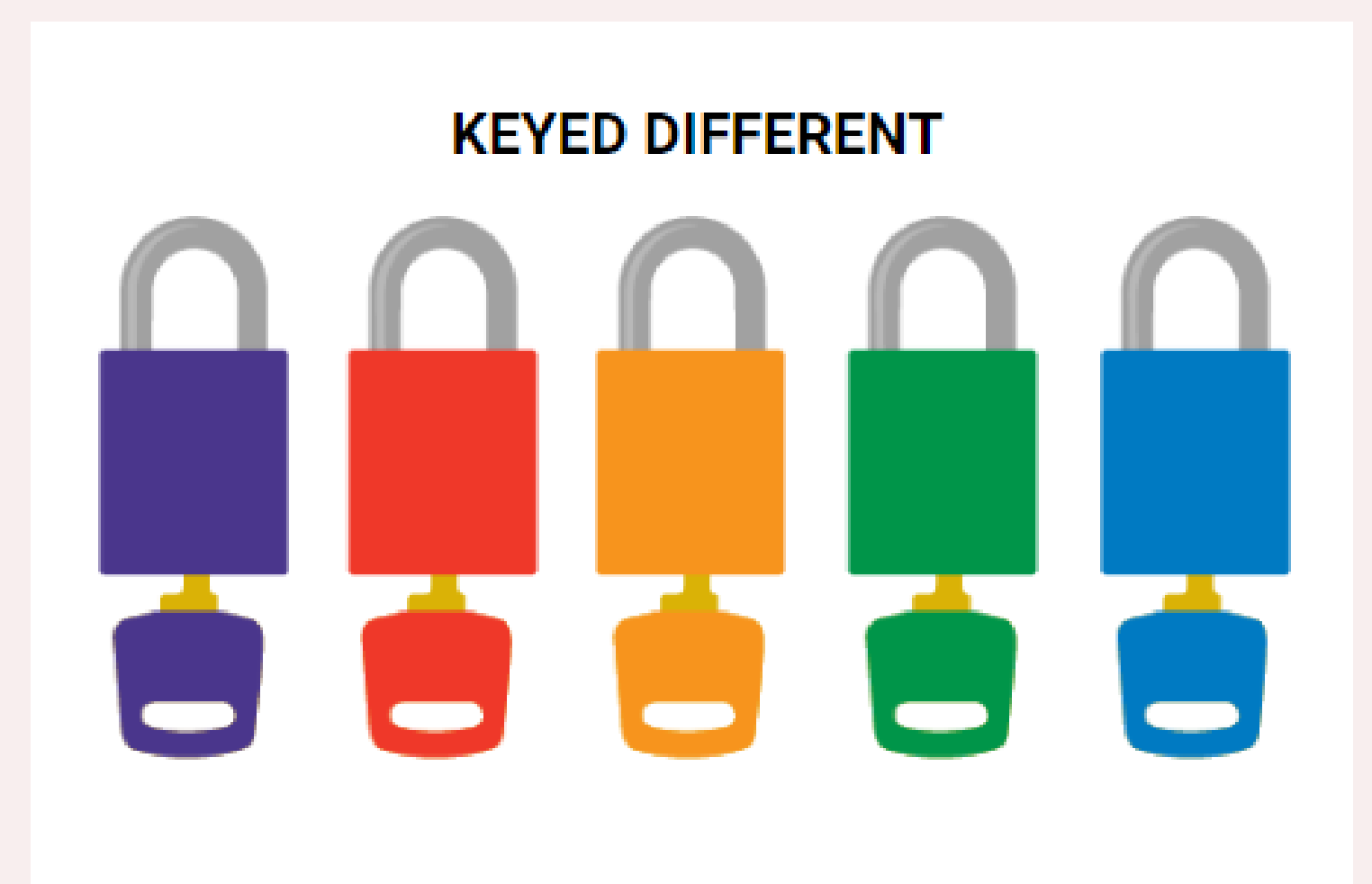
Keyed alike means that each lock in a group can be opened with the same key. This keying system reduces the number of keys needed to be carried by a worker. It's ideal for individuals or trades responsible for locking out machines with multiple isolation points.

Keyed different vs keyed alike OSHA guidance

While not specifically mentioned, the portion of OSHA's lockout tagout standard that most closely applies to keyed padlocks is 29 CFR 1910.147(c) (5) OSHA Lockout Device Requirements. This section states that lockout devices must:

- Be provided by the employer
- Be standardized by size, shape or color
- Be distinguishable from locks used for other purposes; lockout locks should only be used for lockout
- Identify the individual who applied the lock (tags, lock engraving and lock labels are acceptable for this purpose); it's best practice to include employee name and contact information at a minimum
- Be capable of withstanding the usage environment and must be strong enough to prevent removal except by using excessive force with special tools, such as bolt cutters
- Whenever lockout devices are applied, they must remain under the exclusive control of the individual who attached them; no employee should be able to open a lock attached by someone else

The final bullet applies most directly to the issue of keyed different vs keyed alike, specifically OSHA's "one person, one lock, one key" guidance. Keyed alike locks should never be split among multiple employees, as that would mean more than one employee could open the same lock, and thereby increase the risk of accidental re-energization.



When and why to use keyed alike or keyed different safety padlocks



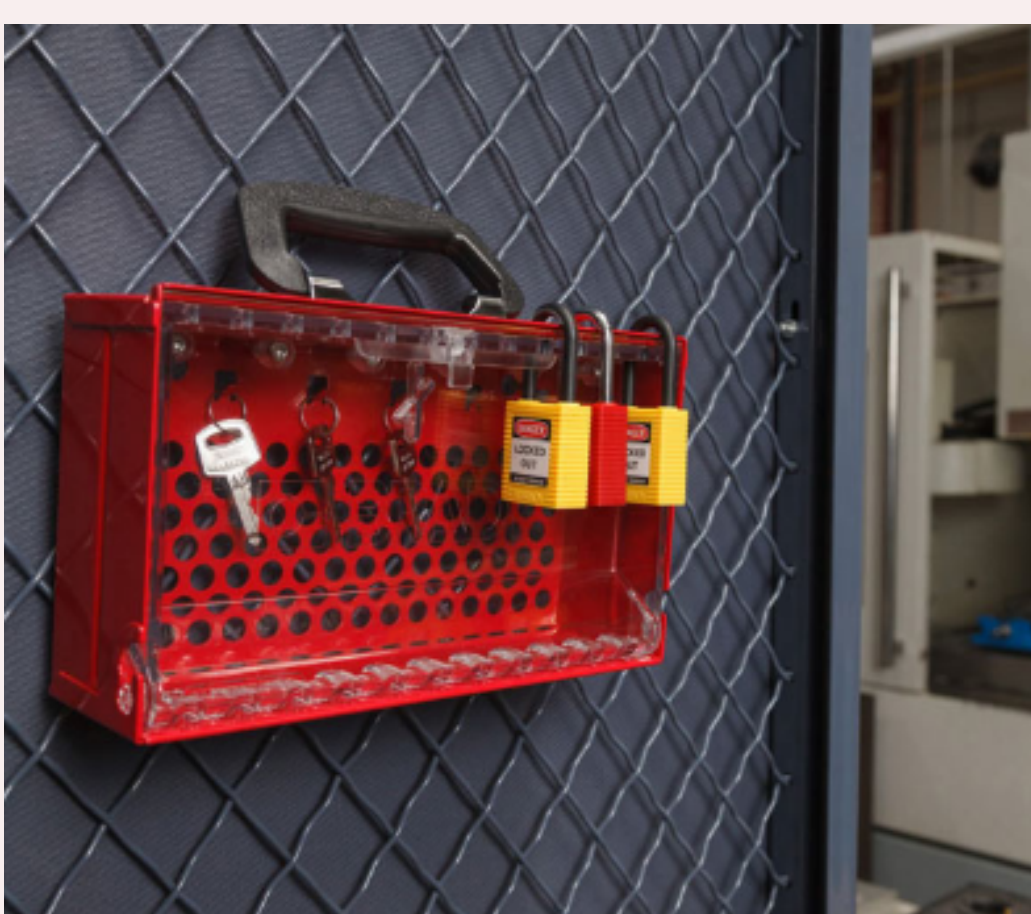
Keyed different

When to use keyed different padlocks:

- Larger teams are involved in the lockout procedure, like group lockout, and will take responsibility for their own equipment
- As a personal lock assigned to authorized personnel
- Lockout devices with holes for multiple locks, such as hasps, are in use
- Where they can be checked out on a lock board (usually when one person works on one piece of equipment)

Why they're beneficial:

- Every lock has its own key
- Losing a key doesn't mean loss of control over other locks
- No key duplication when multiple maintenance personnel need to lock out equipment



Keyed alike

When to use keyed alike padlocks:

- Keyed alike lockout padlocks are best suited when a maintenance individual is responsible for machines with multiple isolation points

Why they're beneficial:

- Helps to streamline key management
- Fewer keys to track and keep on a keyring
- Makes it easier to find the right key

Keyed Different vs. Keyed Alike

What to know and how to choose

Keyed Different

Keyed Alike

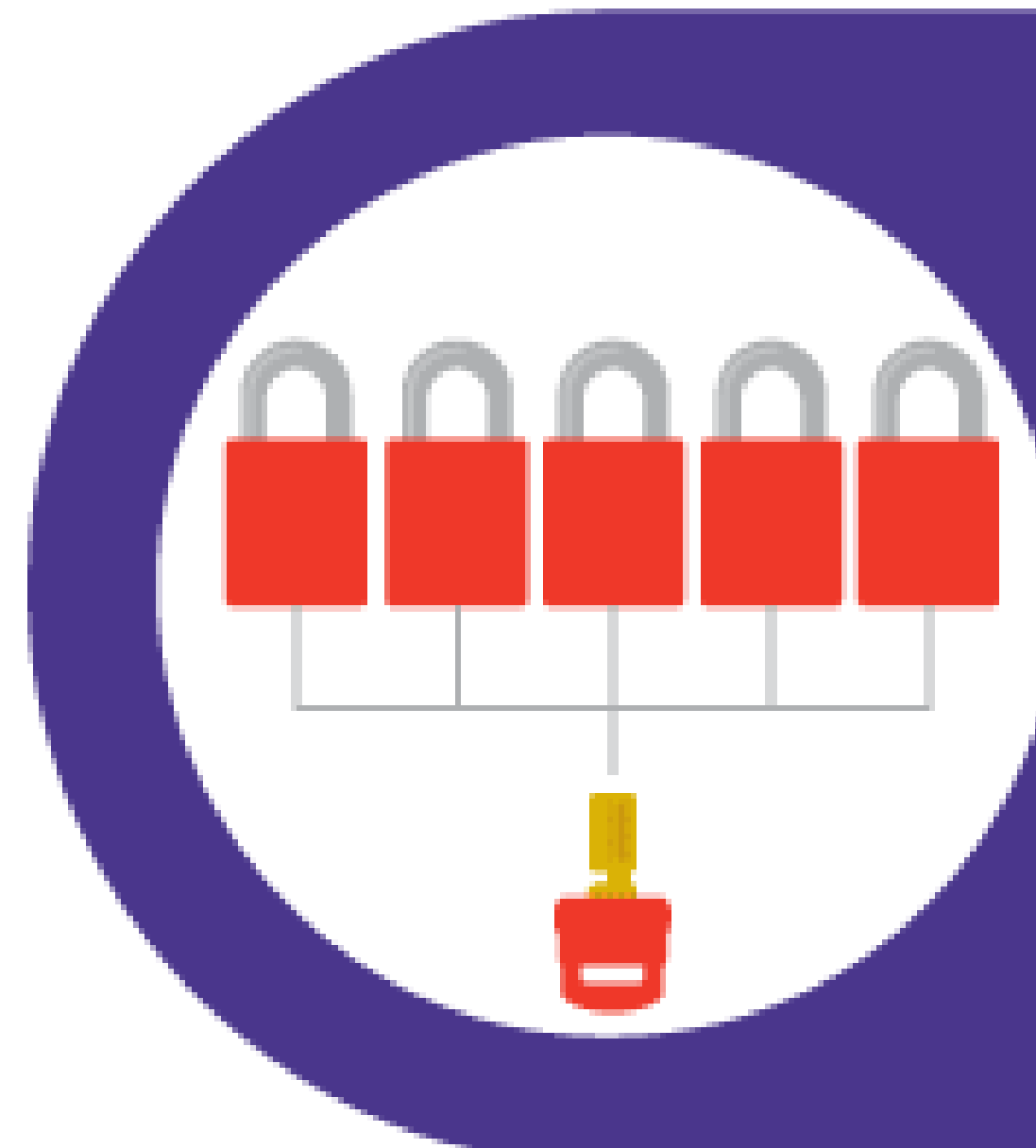
What it means

Keyed different means that each lock is opened by its own unique key.



What it means

Keyed alike means that each lock in a group can be opened with the same key.



When to use

Personal locks for authorized employees



When to use

One employee locking out multiple isolation points



Why they're beneficial

- ▶ Every lock has own key
- ▶ Lost key is less severe
- ▶ No key duplication issues

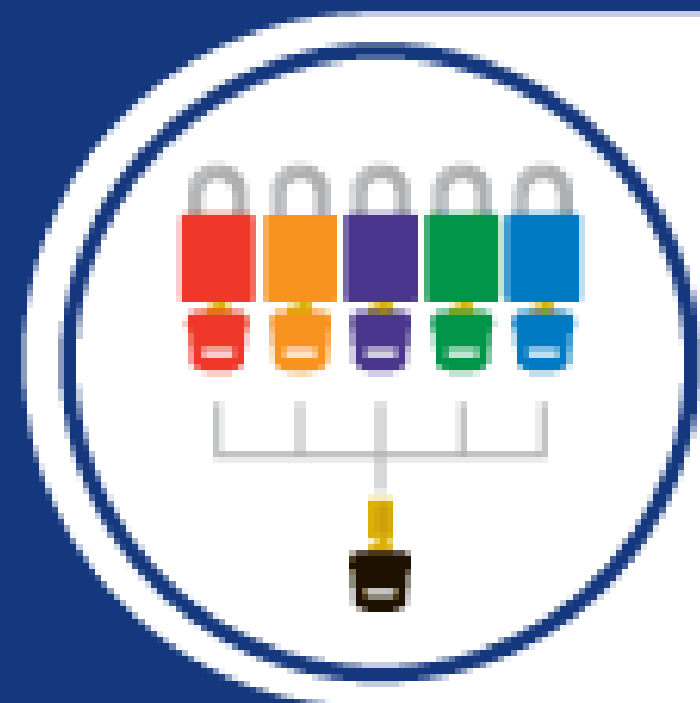


Why they're beneficial

- ▶ Streamlined key management
- ▶ Fewer keys to track
- ▶ Easy to locate right key



Additional keying options



Master Keyed

A group of locks, whether keyed alike or keyed different, can be opened with a single **master key**.

Grand Master Keyed

A **grand master key** can open all locks grouped into two or more master-keyed systems.

