Business is going well, and you are taking over the suite next door. Or the warehouse is adding a mezzanine office. Or a property you manage is converting storage into two more rentable units. Every one of those changes adds doors, and if you already have a master key system, the natural question is whether those new doors can simply join it.

Sometimes the answer is a straightforward yes. Sometimes it takes more planning than people expect.

Why New Doors Are Not Always Plug and Play

A master key system is built on a plan. Each cylinder is configured so that its individual key, plus any higher-level keys above it, will operate it. Adding a door means creating a new cylinder that fits that same plan without accidentally letting the wrong keys open it, or letting the new key open doors it should not.

Whether that is possible depends on several things:

- **The original design.** Some systems were set up with room to grow. Others were built tightly around the doors that existed at the time.
- **Compatible components.** The new door needs cylinders that match the system's keyway and type.
- **The hardware on the new doors.** A suite you are taking over may have locks from a completely different manufacturer.
- **Records.** If you or a past manager kept documentation of the system, expansion is much easier to plan.

Gather What You Know

Before anyone touches a lock, collect:

- A list of the new doors and what they are for.
- Who should have access to each new door: which existing key levels, and whether any new user group is involved.
- Any records you have of the current system and who manages it.
- Photos or a description of the locks currently on the new doors.

1ST L.S. Locksmith works out what can be established from those records and the installed hardware before recommending additions. If the existing system cannot accommodate the new doors cleanly, you will hear why, along with the alternatives: a replacement cylinder, a separate key for the new area, or a broader reconfiguration.

When It Makes Sense to Rework the Whole System

Occasionally, an expansion reveals that the original system has been patched so many times that adding more doors would make it confusing. Keys open doors nobody remembers, and nobody is quite sure what the top-level key covers. In that case, it can be cleaner to step back and redesign around the space as it exists now, with the roles and access levels you actually need.

That is a bigger project, but it often pays off. A system that matches the current building is easier to manage than one that grew in pieces. The technician can explain when a broader reconfiguration makes more sense than repeatedly modifying isolated locks.

Plan the Work With Your Move

If you are moving into an adjacent suite, try to schedule the master key work after the previous tenant has fully moved out and before your staff start using the space. Have someone with authority on hand to sign off on the door list and collect the keys for the added openings.

Scope and pricing are discussed before any work begins. Once the new doors are set up, the technician checks operation with each relevant key level and goes over the expanded layout with your representative. Update your key records the same day so the system stays documented.

Master key systems in Los Angeles offices, warehouses and managed buildings rarely stay the same size forever. Planning additions carefully keeps them useful as you grow.

We are on call 24/7 if a new door needs to join the system on short notice. Adding doors to your system? Contact 1ST L.S. Locksmith, 1580 Centinela Ave https://ls24hrlocksmith.com/about-us/ #7, Inglewood, CA 90302, (310) 430-1030, and tell us what is changing in your space.