FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTION:

I’ve been asked to order lock cores for a construction project. Is there a difference between a lock core and a lock cylinder?

Yes. Although these terms are often, and mistakenly, used interchangeably during a construction project, they are not the same components.

Which one you need will depend on the type of cylinder specified; standard cylinder or removable core cylinder. Let’s take a look.

Consider using the following questions if you’re uncertain whether a cylinder or core is needed:

“*You are requesting cores for this project, are these cores for removable core cylinders?*”

If the answer is no, the customer is typically referring to the entire cylinder.
If the answer is yes, simply ask:

“*...would you like the cylinder housing too or just the cores?*”

AND

“*...do the specifications indicate small format or large format cores?*”

Verifying and noting whether small or large format cores are specified, is a safeguard that can prevent confusion in the ordering process. For more information regarding Cylinder Types, please see pages 12-13 of *I Speak Locksmith.*