

THE SPACE BETWEEN THE ELEVATOR AND HOISTWAY DOORS MAY RESULT IN A CHILD OR SMALL ADULT BECOMING ENTRAPPED, SERIOUSLY INJURED OR KILLED IF THE ELEVATOR MOVES.

INSTALLATION OF SPACE GUARDS CAN GREATLY REDUCE THE RISK OF SERIOUS INJURY.

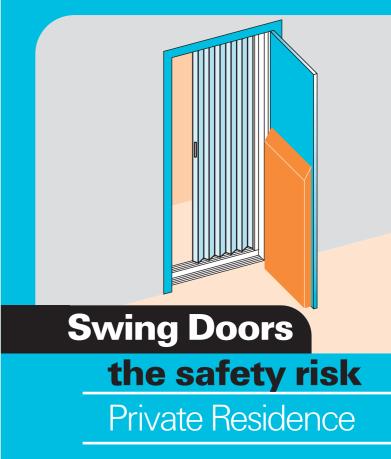
An Ounce of Prevention

Elisha Graves Otis invented the "safety elevator" in 1853, and since then safety has been at the heart of Otis equipment and maintenance.

Although the public may take it for granted, passenger safety is the result of countless details in the equipment's design, manufacture and preventive maintenance.

This Otis Safety Guide was created to help you prevent situations that can pose safety risks.

OTIS SAFETY SERIES NO.2







MOD 107 (0903) US/CAN

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Private Residence Elevators:

Swing Doors—the safety risk

Elevators often last as long as the buildings or homes in which they are installed. Consequently, while they met safety codes and standards of their era, many elevators have not been updated to meet today's codes.

In particular, many Private Residence Elevators with swing-type hoistway (hallway) doors do not meet current ASME and CAN/CSA-B44 Codes for elevators that require the space between the hoistway door and the elevator car gate or accordion-type folding car door be no more than 5 inches (127 mm). In addition, the clearance between the hoistway doors and the hoistway edge of the landing sill shall not exceed 3 inches (76 mm). However, since many local authorities have not yet adopted the Codes, or where Codes are adopted, do not inspect Private Residence Elevators, there are still many elevators in use today that have an excessively wide space between the doors.

In many of these elevators, the space between the car gate (often an accordion door or a scissors-type or collapsible gate) and the hoistway door can be as wide as 7 inches (178 mm) or greater. This space is wide enough for a child or small adult to become entrapped between the car door or gate and the hoistway door when the hoistway door closes.

There have been multiple deaths and serious injuries on elevators equipped with swingtype hoistway doors, in which children who were trapped in this space were crushed or killed when the elevator car moved.

Space guards—the solution

Otis Elevator Company recommends that swing-door elevators with a space between the hoistway door and car door or gate that exceeds 5 inches (127 mm) be fitted with a space guard meeting the following specifications:

- A space guard made of sheet metal shall be provided. This space guard, sometimes known as a "baffle," shall be attached to the hoistway door (see illustration A). The guard is to be mounted on the door by tamper-proof means.
- 2. The vertical face of the space guard shall extend at least 40 inches (1,016 mm) up from the bottom of the door (see illustration B). Some earlier space guard designs are ineffective because they only fill the space at the bottom or another limited portion of the door. Consequently, a child or small adult can stand or climb on the guard, still be trapped, and crushed or killed when the car moves.
- The top face of the space guard shall be set at a 60- to 75-degree angle (see illustration B).

With the appropriate space guard installed, the room for a child or small adult to be trapped is greatly reduced, thus decreasing the risk of serious injury or death.

If the space between the car door or gate and hoistway door is not greater than that permitted by the Code, then a space guard is not required per ASME A17.3 - 2002.

For Additional Information

Call 1-888-458-OTIS (6847) or visit www.otis.com

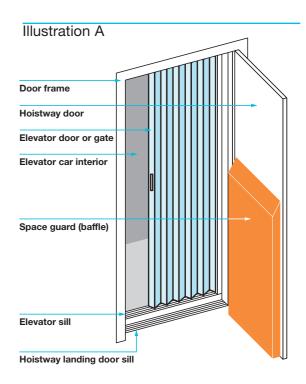


Illustration B

