

NSW FACT SHEET – EXIT DOORS AND SIGNS

1. EXIT DOORS

All exit doors are required to:

- Be readily openable without a key or latch from the side of the door seeking exit;
- Be able to open with a single hand pushing action on a panic bar or downward action handle, located between 900mm and 1,200mm from the floor.

Note: only one leaf of a two-leaf door is required to meet the above (*Section D2.21(c), Volume 1, NCC 2016*).

2. EXIT SIGNAGE

The location of exits should be clearly marked, and signs should be posted to show the direction to exit doors to aid emergency evacuation.

An exit sign above a required exit must meet the following requirements:

- Be displayed above the exit at a height between 2m and 2.7m, where practicable (*Section 6.8.1, AS 2293.1:2005*),
- Display the running man and/or directional arrows (*Section 3.3, AS 2293.3:2005*). In buildings constructed prior to 2007, the word 'exit' (white writing on green background) may still be used;
- Be illuminated internally (e.g. they are a light) or be capable of being illuminated externally by an emergency luminaire (lamp) located within 2m of the sign (*Section 5.4, AS 2293.1:2005*), in the event that power supply fails.



3. DIRECTIONAL SIGNAGE

Exit signs are to be clearly visible when the building is occupied at all times, by any person having the right of legal entry to the building (*Section E4.8, Volume 1, NCC 2016*).

If an exit is not readily apparent to persons occupying or visiting the building, then exit signs must be installed in appropriate positions. e.g. corridors, hallways, lobbies, etc. indicating the direction to a required exit (*Section E4.6, Volume 1, NCC 2016*).

4. INFORMATION SOURCES

- *Managing the Work Environment and Facilities, Code of Practice 2019*, visit www.safework.nsw.gov.au;
- *Australian Building Codes Board, 2016 National Construction Code Volume 1*;
- Email us: info@propertyrisk.com.au