



# Tourism Accessibility Updates

## Doors & Hardware



## Door Hardware and Handles

Increase building accessibility with light-weight or automatic doors and accessible handles / door pulls. Doors can be challenging for people with different physical abilities. When a door is heavy and has an inaccessible door handle(s), the door can be difficult to manage for anyone, especially if a person is using a mobility aid, has low manual dexterity or has their hands full with luggage, kids, etc. An accessible door should weigh no more than 2.5kg and include a levered door handle.



## BC Building Code Specifications

- Handles should be 900-1100 mm high
- One-hand operable lock, and can be opened from outside in case of emergency
- For outside swinging doors max force 38N

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### User-friendly Locks

Handles, pulls, latches, locks, and other operating devices on doors should have a shape that is easy to grasp with one hand and should not require tight grasping, pinching, or twisting of the wrist to operate. Lever-operated mechanisms, push-type mechanisms, and U-shaped handles are accessible designs. Where out-swinging doors must be closed to preserve privacy (e.g., on washroom doors), an additional pull handle, mounted horizontally and close to the hinge side of the door, is recommended.



### BC Building Code Specifications

- One-hand operable lock, and can be opened from outside in case of emergency
- Hardware required for accessible door passage shall be mounted no higher than 1220 mm above the floor

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### Door Closer

An automatic door closer is a small piece of hardware that can be installed at the top corner of a door. The doors are engineered so that the hardware does not require any electricity to function. With the automatic door closer, the user does not need to worry about closing the door or having it close on a person unexpectedly.



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## Automatic Doors

Automatic doors enhance accessibility and convenience, especially for those with mobility aids or heavy loads. Activated by push button or motion sensor, they open and close without manual effort. Options include single or double doors.

## BC Building Code Specifications

- Minimum 3 seconds from 70° to 75mm from closed at leading edge of latch side
- Located on an accessible path of travel
- Marked with the International Symbol of Access
- Positioned 600mm to 1500mm from door swing, clear of swing area
- Operable 150mm–300mm and 900mm–1100mm above the floor
- Operable by fist, arm, or foot, unless equipped with safety sensors
- Operators fully open doors in  $\geq 3$  seconds, requiring  $\leq 65$ N to stop movement
- Clear, level space extending the height of the doorway,  $\geq 1100$ mm long, door width

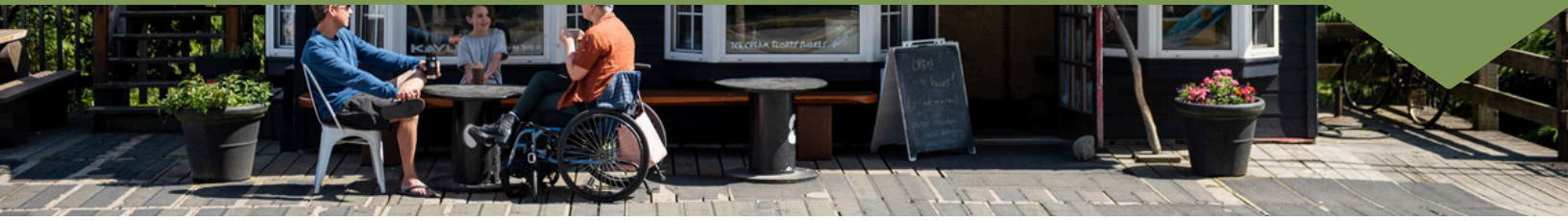
Additional considerations for universal accessibility view CAN/ASC B156.

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## Entry Threshold

Entry thresholds are important for accessibility because they create a smooth transition between different floor levels, allowing people with mobility impairments to enter and exit a space more easily. Additionally, thresholds that are too high or uneven can create a tripping hazard for everyone, so ensuring that thresholds are properly designed and maintained is important for the safety and accessibility of all individuals. An entry threshold with a low profile or seamless transition is the most accessible option for an entryway. A raised edge may pose a tripping hazard or make it difficult to impossible for a wheelchair / mobility aid to navigate their device over the raised edge. Entry thresholds could be permanent or temporary installations.

## BC Building Code Specifications

- Where the threshold is not flush with the floor, the threshold shall be not more than 13 mm higher than the finished floor surface, and where it is higher than 6 mm, shall be beveled to a slope no steeper than 1 in 2.

Additional considerations for universal accessibility view CAN/ASC B156.

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