3 - 5 Rule

The 3-5 Rule relates to residential elevators with swing doors on the landings. The space between the back of the swing door and the cab gate is very dangerous. The code requires that the distance from the back of the swing door to the edge of the hoistway cannot exceed 3”, and the back of the swing door to the cab gate cannot exceed 5”.

The contractor building the hoistway is responsible for meeting the 3” requirement. This rule will be enforced. Take this into consideration when framing the hoistway. We recommend framing the hoistway doors with 2x4 construction will help to meet the 3-5 rule. Framing the hoistway doors with 2x6 construction will make it difficult to meet the 3-5 rule.