

Chapter 14

Lifts

Accessible Standard

(14.1) PLANNING PRINCIPLE

To provide well-dimensioned lifts in order to provide access to the different levels to all users including wheelchair users.

(14.2) ACCESS

In buildings with three floors and more, it is recommended to have at least one lift, which can be used at every floor even if the floors are at under ground level.

If the building has more than one staircase, there should be one lift for every staircase.

Lifts should be connected with accessible pathways. There should be no steps without ramps from outside the entrance to the lift.

(14.3) LANDING AREA

On each level, the lift should be served by horizontal landing area of minimum 1.5x1.5m, large enough for wheelchair users to turn or reverse into or out of the lift.

If down-going stairs are placed near the lift, the space between the lift door and the stairs should be minimum 2.0m to avoid the risk of a wheelchair user rolling down the stairs by coincidence.

(14.4) INTERNAL DIMENSION

The lift should have a minimum internal dimension of 1.10m (width) x 1.40m (depth) to allow easy maneuvering by a wheelchair user.

(14.5) SURFACE

The floor surface of the lift should be of non-slippery surface or material.

(14.6) CALL BUTTONS

The call button should be located at a minimum height between 0.90m-0.20m from the floor level.

The buttons should be marked with tactile markings for easy identification by the vision impaired.

There should be an audio facility within the lift to alert the blind and partially sighted persons of the current floor or destination.

It is necessary to provide visual and tactile indication of floor level next to call buttons.

(14.7) DOORS

Door(s) should be placed at the narrow end(s) of the lift and should have a minimum opening space of 0.80m wide.

If the doors are placed at a right angle to each other, the size of the lift should be minimum dimension of 1.8x1.8m.

Lift door closing mechanisms should be controllable to give adequate entry time for people with reduced mobility.

(14.8) CONTROL PANEL

The lifts should have control panel outside and within the lift cage. It should be located at a height between 0.90m-1.20m from the floor and minimum 0.5m from the corners.

The control panels should be clearly labeled and where possible fitted with voice direction.

Numbers should be embossed to be identifiable by touch and with contrasted colours, and all control buttons should be in braille.

The use of contrasted colours is recommended for all the lift equipment for the benefit of people with visual impairment.

(14.9) AUDIO-VISUAL SIGNALS

The lift should signal arrival to each floor by means of a bell, followed by audio announcement of the current destination and a light to alert the blind person and hearing-impaired passengers simultaneously.

(14.10) RECOMMENDED EQUIPMENT

There should be handrails inside the lift mounted between 0.80m and 1.5m on either side from the floor.