



EGRESS DOOR HARDWARE for COMMERCIAL OCCUPANCIES

Egress (Exit) doors are all doors in the path of egress travel to the exterior of a building. All such doors, in commercial occupancies, fall under the specific requirements of the Connecticut State Fire Prevention Code regardless of building age or occupancy use.

All doors are required to “unlatch” with one operation. The installation of additional locks or latches, including security devices, is NOT permitted if the additional lock or latch creates a second releasing motion.

Lever-style door handles are compliant in most scenarios (*not requiring panic or fire exit hardware*) as it satisfies all requirements of the Fire Prevention Code.



“Lever-style” door handle

Push-pad style handles are also compliant in most scenarios (*not requiring panic or fire exit hardware*).





PANIC HARDWARE

Panic hardware is required in Places of Assembly, Day-Care Facilities, and in Educational School Buildings when the occupant load exceeds 99 persons.

Panic and fire exit hardware shall be installed on each door in a means of egress from an occupancy of Group A or E having an occupant load of 100 or more (and Group H). (Fire exit hardware is required wherever panic hardware is required and the door is required to be fire-rated.)

Panic/fire exit hardware shall comply with the following:

- (1) The actuating portion of the releasing device shall extend at least one-half of the door leaf width.
- (2) A maximum unlatching force of 15 pounds.
- (3) Panic hardware shall comply with UL 305 & fire exit hardware shall comply with UL 305 and UL 10C.





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The following are examples of **NON-COMPLIANT** door hardware:

Non-compliant: Thumb-turn lock
Requires tight-grasping and twisting of the wrist to operate



Non-compliant: Dead bolt locks
Requires two motions to unlatch; also installed higher than 48" above the finished floor level



Non-compliant: Slide bolt lock
Slide bolts are specifically prohibited on any active leaf of an egress door



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The following are examples of **NON-COMPLIANT** door hardware:



Non-compliant: Keyed-cylinder lock on egress side of exit door

Non-indicating keyed cylinders are never permitted on the egress side of an exit door