



Evacuation Pro — Exit Route Guide



Over 1 million fires occur per year — seconds matter to keep your employees safe. If an evacuation is necessary, does everyone know how to exit safely and quickly? The National Fire Prevention Association (NFPA) and OSHA outline requirements to keep your people safe.

Guide to the Creation and Safeguarding of Exit Routes

What is an *exit route*?

An exit route is a continuous and unobstructed path of exit travel from any point within a workplace to a place of safety.

What are some design requirements for *exit routes* specified by OSHA?

- Exit routes must be permanent parts of the workplace.
- Exit discharges must lead directly outside or to a street, walkway, refuge area, or open space with access to the outside. They must be large enough to accommodate the building occupants likely to use the exit route.
- Exit route doors must be unlocked from the inside. They must be free of devices or alarms that could restrict use of the exit route if the device or alarm fails.
- Exit routes must support the maximum permitted occupant load for each floor served.
- Ceilings of exit routes must be at least 7 feet, 6 inches high.
- An exit access must be at least 28 inches wide at all points.

What are the maintenance, safeguarding, and operational features for exit routes?

OSHA standards require employers to do the following:

- Keep exit routes free of explosive or highly flammable furnishings and other decorations.
- Arrange exit routes so employees will not have to travel toward a high-hazard area unless the path of travel is effectively shielded from the high-hazard area.
- Ensure that exit routes are unobstructed such as by materials, equipment, locked doors, or dead-end corridors.
- Ensure that safeguards designed to protect employees during an emergency remain in good working order.
- Provide lighting for exit routes adequate for employees with normal vision.

- Keep exit route doors free of decorations that obscure the visibility of exit route doors.
- Post signs along the exit pathway indicating the direction of travel to the nearest exit and exit discharge if that direction is not immediately apparent.
- Also, the line-of-sight to an exit sign must be clearly visible at all times.
- NFPA requires new sign placement so that no point along the exit pathway is further than the rated viewing distance of the sign or 100 feet (whichever is less) from the nearest sign.
- Mark doors or passages along an exit access that could be mistaken for an exit "Not an Exit" or with a sign identifying its use (such as "Closet").
- Install "EXIT" signs in plainly legible letters.
- Maintain exit routes during construction, repairs, or alterations.
- Provide an emergency alarm system to alert employees, unless employees can promptly see or smell a fire or other hazard in time to provide adequate warning to them.



Glow In The Dark Exit Sign

#42429

Glow in the dark exit sign informs of the direction to an exit.



UL-Listed Premium Low Profile LED Exit Signs

#QQ509

Compact exit signs for quick and easy installation.



Glow In The Dark Not An Exit Sign

#16421

Glow in the dark not an exit sign informs individuals of a none-exit route in your facility. Sign is designed to safely guide individuals throughout a facility in the event of a power outage.

See the entire collection of Exit Pathway products, [click here](#).

About Emedco

For over 60 years, Emedco has been America's safety & compliance leader, manufacturing workplace signage, identification products and more. We relentlessly develop safety, identification and communication solutions for maintenance, safety and operations professionals, and always do our best so you can keep your people safe and your business compliant. Unlike other signage and identification businesses, we offer custom safety and compliance solutions specifically designed for each unique situation you may encounter. Whether you need to unjam equipment, mark slippery walkways, create an evacuation guidance system or make certain your business is ADA compliant, we tirelessly focus on safety so, ultimately, you have peace of mind.