

SINGLE EGRESS STAIRWELLS



During a fire or other emergency in a multi-storey residential structure, stairwells provide residents a **way out** and Fire Fighters a **way in**.

> FIRE FIGHTER OPERATIONS

When Fire Fighters arrive, it is these same stairwells we use to access and extinguish the fire. These stairwells also serve as tool caches, masonry (non-combustible) safe havens, and are where we connect our fire hoses to the building's water supply. We, our tools, and our hoses take up a lot of space.

> SINGLE EGRESS / POINT ACCESS BLOCKS

Whether we call the reduction of stairwells to only one stairwell Single Egress or Point Access Blocks, the point is the same: the now singular safe haven from which Fire Fighters work and through which residents evacuate is exponentially more congested and does not meet the objectives of the National and Alberta Building Codes.

> PUBLIC SAFETY CONCERNS

Easements to these important codes are being provided to developers so they may remove stairwells to build larger or additional suites. We aren't developers. We are Fire Fighters who understand public safety and what it takes for us to successfully do our jobs, so we oppose Point Access Blocks. However, we see a way forward that maintains public safety and our ability to perform while reducing construction to a singular stairwell.

> THE SOLUTION: SCISSOR STAIRS

The solution is scissor stairs: two separate staircases crossing each other inside a single vertical shaft, as shown at right. This saves the space developers are looking for while maintaining a **means of egress for residents** and a **means of ingress for Fire Fighters**. We won't obstruct their exit, and they won't obstruct our operations. This also does not require an exception to the National or Alberta Building Code.

HOW SCISSOR STAIRS WORK



TWO STAIRCASES. ONE SHAFT.
Two separate staircases within a single vertical shaft.



SEPARATED EGRESS & INGRESS
Residents exit while Fire Fighters enter.

THE ASK

The Minister of Municipal Affairs implement a STANDATA requiring scissor stairs in single-egress applications.



SCAN TO VIEW
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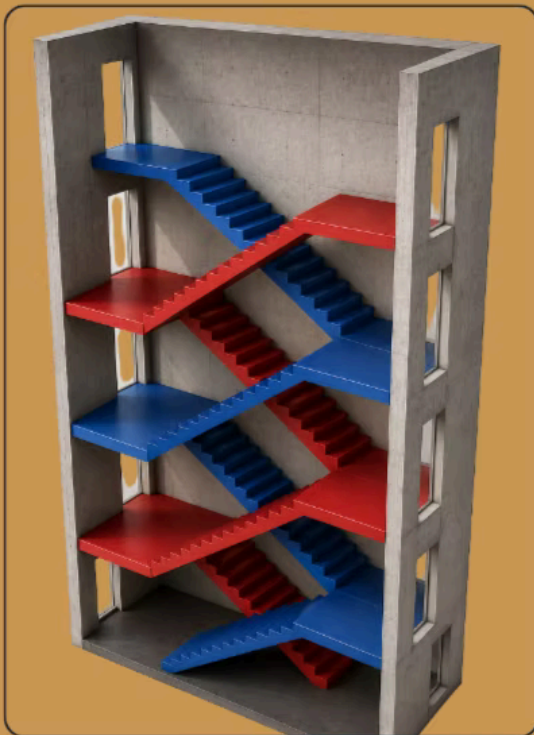


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