

Accordion Gate

A folding interior gate that closes and travels with the elevator.

Adjacent Opening

A cab configuration with doors on two sides at a 90-degree angle. Also called a 90-degree opening.

Automatic Gate Opener

A device that automatically opens and closes an accordion gate.

Battery Backup

A built-in safety feature that activates during a power outage. Powers lights and lowers the cab to the nearest landing for safe exit.

Cab (Car)

The enclosed platform where passengers ride.

Cab Configuration

The layout of doors on the elevator cab: inline, adjacent, or front and rear (pass-through).

Car Operating Panel (COP)

The control panel inside the cab used to select floors and operate lights, optional key lock, and emergency features.

Car Sling

The structural frame that supports the elevator cab and its contents inside the hoistway.

Commercial-Style Doors

Heavy-duty, stainless steel or glass elevator doors, like automatic sliding doors found in commercial buildings.

Controller

The computerized system that manages elevator movement, door operation, and safety features.

Door Lock

A mechanical safety device that prevents a landing door from opening unless the elevator cab is present at that floor. Ensures that passengers cannot access the open shaft.

Drive System

The mechanical system that powers the elevator. Southeast Elevator offers electric winding drum and hydraulic systems.

Elevator Code Compliance

Southeast Elevator systems meet all local and national codes, including ASME A17.1 standards.

Emergency Telephone

A phone located in the elevator cab for contacting emergency services or a designated number if needed. Code compliance requirement.

Fixtures

Light rings, handrail, COP, hall call button.

Fixture Finish

The selected material and color of hardware components like buttons and handrails. Available in various finishes.

Front and Rear (Pass-Through)

A cab configuration with doors on opposite sides of the cab, allowing entry and exit in a straight line.

Gate

The interior barrier that closes off the cab entrance during operation. It moves with the elevator as it travels. Common types include accordion gates and scissor gates. Elevator gates prevent access to the shaft while the cab is in motion and must be fully closed for the elevator to operate.

Hall Station

A button panel located outside the elevator at each landing used to call the elevator to that floor.

Handrail

A horizontal rail inside the cab for passenger support and stability. Comes in various finishes.

Hoistway

The vertical shaft in which the elevator cab travels. Built of wood or block depending on the structure.

Hydraulic Drive System (Roped)

A quiet, residential elevator system that uses a combination of hydraulic power and steel cables to move the cab. A hydraulic piston raises and lowers a sheave (pulley), which moves ropes attached to the elevator cab.

Inline Opening

A cab configuration with a single opening to the cab.

Interlock

A mechanical safety device that prevents a landing door from opening unless the elevator cab is present at that floor. Ensures that passengers cannot access the open shaft.

Landing Door

A swing-style door at each floor, designed to match the home's interior and to prevent shaft access when the elevator is not present.

LED Lighting

Energy-efficient lighting used inside the cab. Bright, low-heat, and long-lasting.

Machine Room (Equipment Area)

A space that houses the controller and a hydraulic elevator's motor.

Overhead Clearance

The vertical space above the cab required for safe elevator operation.

Overhead Winding Drum

A compact drive system that uses steel cables wound on a drum to move the cab. Often machine room-less, known for being space-efficient and mechanically straightforward, winding drum elevators are a popular choice for residential use. Southeast Elevator specializes in overhead winding drum systems for their reliability, quiet operation, and low maintenance needs.

Piston

In a hydraulic elevator system, the piston is a solid metal rod housed inside a cylinder. When hydraulic fluid is pumped into the cylinder, it pushes the piston upward, lifting the elevator cab. As fluid pressure is released, the piston lowers, allowing the cab to descend smoothly.

Pit

A shallow recessed area beneath the lowest landing. Houses safety equipment and provides cab clearance.

PVE (Pneumatic Vacuum Elevator)

A self-supporting elevator system that moves the cab using air pressure in a clear tube. Compact and ideal for retrofits.

Rated Load Capacity

The maximum weight the elevator can carry, typically 950 lbs for residential systems.

Roped Hydraulic System

A type of hydraulic elevator that uses a combination of a piston and cables to move the cab. Instead of pushing the cab directly, the hydraulic piston raises and lowers a sheave, which moves the ropes attached to the cab. This setup allows for greater travel distance with a shorter piston and a more compact installation. Southeast Elevator uses roped hydraulic systems for smoother rides, space efficiency, and reliable performance in residential settings.

Scissor Gate

A collapsible metal gate made of intersecting steel arms.

Service Disconnect

The main elevator power switch located within or near the controller.

Shaft

The vertical space or structure that the elevator cab travels through. Also called the hoistway. Can be built of framed wood or concrete block depending on the home's construction and local code requirements.

Sheave

A grooved wheel (pulley) that guides and supports the elevator cables.

Sill

The threshold at the entrance to the elevator cab and each landing. Made of durable metal, the sill bridges the gap between the landing floor and the elevator cab floor.

Stacked Closet Design

Closets aligned vertically on each floor, pre-planned to convert into a future elevator shaft.

Travel Distance

The total vertical distance the elevator travels between the lowest and highest landings.

Wall Panel Style

The material and design of the elevator's interior walls. Available in flat, raised, or recessed styles in various finishes.

Winding Drum

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