

cendrex



TOOLKIT

# Fire-Rated Access Doors



[cendrex.com](https://cendrex.com)

# Understanding Fire-Rated Access Doors

## Fire-rated access doors maintain the integrity of walls and ceilings during a fire

They perform their full function only when the correct model is selected and properly installed. A fire-rated access door is a component designed to **preserve the fire resistance of a wall or ceiling assembly**, helping to limit the spread of flames and heat for a defined period. Its performance depends directly on compliance with tested and certified standards.

This guide serves as a clear reference for **contractors, estimators, distributors, and project managers**.

## Fire-rated standards essentials

Cendrex fire-rated access doors are tested in accordance to current North American standards.

### WALL STANDARDS (VERTICAL ACCESS DOORS)

<b>UL 10B</b> (2008 / revised 2020)	Fire exposure test for doors installed in non-pressurized fire-rated walls.
<b>NFPA 252</b> (2022)	Standard test method for evaluating fire door assemblies.
<b>CAN/ULC S104</b> (2015 / revised 2020)	Canadian equivalent of UL 10B, used for certifying doors installed in fire-rated wall assemblies.

### CEILING STANDARDS (HORIZONTAL ACCESS DOORS)

<b>ASTM E119</b> (2020 & 2024)	Fire test method for walls, floors, ceilings, and roofs.
<b>CAN/ULC S101</b> (2014)	Canadian standard measuring fire resistance of building assemblies, including ceilings.



Intertek

## Certification & Accredited Third Party

Fire-rated access doors must be tested and certified by a recognized third-party organization such as **Intertek / Warnock Hersey**.

This certification confirms that the model has successfully passed fire exposure testing and meets the required resistance criteria for wall or ceiling.

Every Cendrex fire-rated access door carries a permanent certification label ensuring:

- ✓ Test validity
- ✓ Product traceability
- ✓ Inspection compliance

# Product Overview

			
	<b>PFI</b> <b>Fire-Rated Insulated Access Door with Exposed Flange</b>	<b>PFN</b> <b>Fire-Rated Uninsulated Access Door with Exposed Flange</b>	<b>PFU</b> <b>Fire-Rated Insulated Upward Opening Access Door with Exposed Flange</b>
<b>Installation</b>	Walls and ceilings	Walls	Ceilings
<b>Locking Mechanism</b>	Self-latching automatic slam latch with tool key and ring lock included. Equipped with an inside panel release allowing the door to open from the inside for fire-rated doors > 12" x 12".	Self-latching automatic slam latch with tool key and ring lock included. Equipped with an inside panel release allowing the door to open from the inside for fire-rated doors > 12" x 12".	Upward opening (~89°) with gravity closing. The access door closes naturally without a spring.
<b>Material</b>	20-gauge galvalume steel door. 16-gauge cold-rolled steel frame.	16-gauge cold-rolled steel.	20-gauge galvalume steel door. 16-gauge cold-rolled steel frame.
<b>Custom Manufacturing</b>	Made to order in 5 days	Made to order in 5 days	Made to order in 5 days
<b>Wall Certification</b>	UL 10B, NFPA 252, CAN/ULC S104	UL 10B, NFPA 252, CAN/ULC S104	N/A
<b>Wall Fire-Rating</b>	Up to 3 hours neutral / negative pressure.	Up to 1.5 hours neutral / negative pressure.	N/A
<b>Ceiling Certification</b>	ASTM E119, CAN/ULC S101	N/A	ASTM E119, CAN/ULC S101
<b>Ceiling Fire-Rating</b>	Up to 3 hours in non-combustible construction and 1 hour in combustible construction.	N/A	Up to 3 hours in non-combustible construction and 1 hour in combustible construction.
<b>Applications</b>	Wherever code requires a fire-rated wall or ceiling.	Wherever code requires a fire-rated wall.	Wherever code requires a fire-rated ceiling.

## Fire-Rated Compliance: Before / During / After

A compliant installation depends on the coordinated integration of the access door, frame, fire-rated sealant, and the assembly.

<b>BEFORE INSTALLATION</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Verify the correct model and orientation (wall or ceiling).</li> <li>Confirm the certification label is visible and intact.</li> <li>Inspect the rough opening: alignment, stability, no torsion.</li> <li>Perform a visual inspection of the access door.</li> </ul>
<b>DURING INSTALLATION</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Prepare the opening for the access door installation.</li> <li>Secure the hinge side first to provide stability.</li> <li>Confirm the frame is square (diagonals are equal).</li> <li>Ensure the remaining sides stay parallel.</li> <li>Maintain uniform clearances for smooth operation.</li> <li>If required, apply a continuous fire-rated sealant around the full perimeter.</li> <li>If required, assemble the supplied springs.</li> </ul>
<b>AFTER INSTALLATION</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Test full door closure three times.</li> <li>Verify the certification label remains fully visible.</li> <li>Photograph the installed access door and certification label.</li> <li>Verify proper operation of the locking mechanism.</li> <li>If required, test operation with springs assembled.</li> </ul>

### COMMON ERRORS

- Covered certification label
- Incorrect model selection
- Frame out of square

### IMPACTS

- Certification cannot be verified
- Non-compliant assembly
- Access door does not close properly

### SOLUTIONS

- Protect the label before finishing
- Use approved fire-rated materials only
- Verify orientation prior to installation
- Adjust frame and recheck diagonals

For over 40 years, Cendrex has been designing robust access solutions for commercial, industrial, and institutional environments.

## Our Commitment

- ✓ **Certified Products**  
Independently tested and certified to meet North American fire-rated standards.
- ✓ **Manufacturing Quality**  
Precision manufacturing ensures consistent performance, reliability, and durability.
- ✓ **Made to Order in 5 Days**  
Custom access doors produced quickly without compromising quality.
- ✓ **Professional Documentation**  
Complete technical resources including Revit (BIMObject), MasterSpec, technical datasheets, and installation guides.

## Why Cendrex Pro?

### Job Site Delivery

Direct delivery anywhere in North America to simplify logistics.

### Resource Library

Centralized access to tools, guides, and practical resources for professionals.

### Training with a Specialist

Live or on-demand training to improve installation speed and compliance.

### Contractor Updates

Ongoing updates on new products, standards, and field best practices.

**cendrex PRO**

FOR CONTRACTORS WHO BUILD  
UNDER PRESSURE

A service built to keep you efficient, compliant, and on schedule, delivering the right access door when timing matters most.

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