

# Fire Safety Management of Stairways

Under a formal risk assessment, it is important when planning a means of escape route system to take into account stairways that lead to other floors or transfer corridors giving access to separate buildings.

Multi-level and large complex buildings often contain more than one stairway and their use is often restricted for evacuation purposes only.

Evacuees using unfamiliar escape stairways need total confidence in their location and which floor they are on at any point of time during an evacuation. It is vitally important therefore, that these stairways are clearly identifiable and that each floor access is clearly numbered.

A concise, methodical system will ensure that

evacuees are more confident during an evacuation process and the speed of egress will be improved.

It will also assist key fire personnel with their evacuation plans, enabling them to quickly locate and identify any potential risk to staff and visitors contained within a particular area in an emergency evacuation.



## Tips to installing a simple yet concise identification system to your stairways:

### Stairway identification:

Using your evacuation plan, identify how many escape stairways you have in your building and allocate each one as follows;

**Stairway A, Stairway B, Stairway C**

**...and so on until each one has been allocated a letter.**

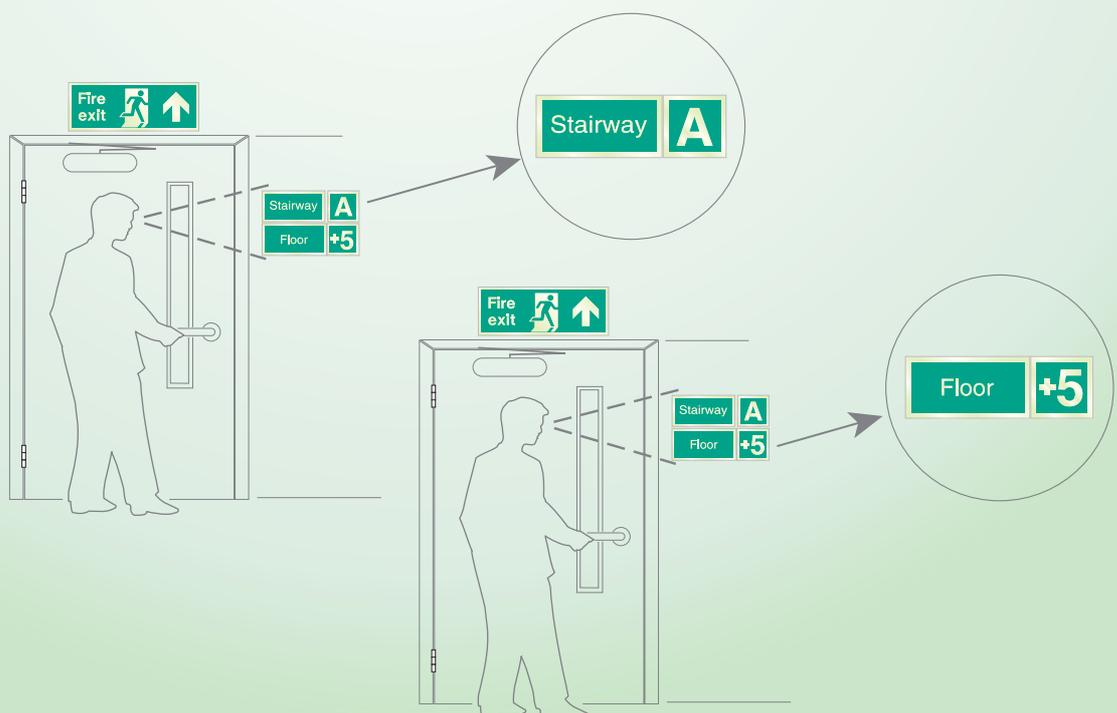
*(It is advised that they are identified from both outside and inside the stairway - see example 2).*

### Floor identification:

**identify the number of floors in each stairway and allocate numbers accordingly.**

*(It is advised that floor numbering is marked both outside and inside the stairway- see example 2).*

### Example 1. External marking of stairways.



JALITE manufacture a complete range of means of escape route signs and safety way guidance systems to complement the products illustrated on this leaflet.

For more information about these products please visit our website.