

- Maximum response time: minimum illuminance within 5 s of supply failing (15 s if occupants familiar with place).
- Minimum duration: 1 hour.
- Minimum light source general colour rendering index: 40.

8.2.2 Signage

The style and details of the safety signs for escape routes are defined in BS 5499 (Figure 8.2). ISO 3864 gives the internationally agreed formats of exit signs and safe condition signs (Figure 8.3). The designs consist of a rectangular or square shaped frame with a white pictogram on a green background. The green area must be more than 50% of the total area of the sign and the colour must conform to ISO 3864-1. As the pictograms can differ in style and content, it is important to consult the enforcing authority for a particular project on its interpretation prior to choosing the signs.

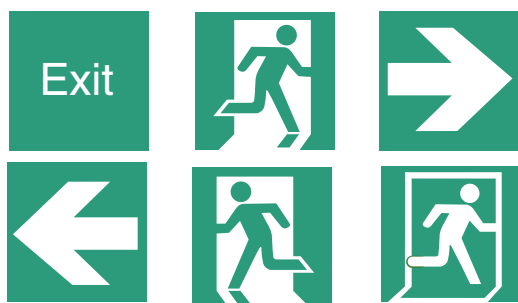


Figure 8.2

Safety signs for escape routes

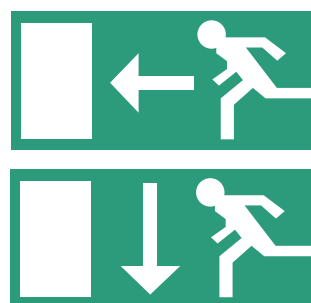


Figure 8.3

Exit signs and safe condition signs

In addition to the design of the sign, there are photometric, geometric, response time and duration requirements for safety signs. These are as follows:

- Colour: conform to ISO 3864-1 chromaticity co-ordinates.
- Minimum luminance of safety colour: 2 cd/m^2 .
- Luminance diversity: maximum/minimum luminance of colour < 10 .
- Luminance contrast range: luminance ratio of white to colour > 5 but < 15 .
- Maximum viewing distance (externally illuminated sign): $100 \times$ mounting height.
- Maximum viewing distance (internally illuminated sign): $200 \times$ mounting height.
- Minimum mounting height: 2 m above floor.
- Minimum response time: 50% of design luminance in 5 s, 100% of design luminance in 60 s.
- Minimum duration: 1 hour.

8.2.3 Open area lighting

An open area is defined as an area of at least 60 m^2 which people have to move through before reaching an escape route. Open areas are divided into two types: those which are unfurnished or in which the furnishings can be easily reconfigured and those in which the seating is fixed. Examples of the former are open plan offices and covered car parks. Examples of the latter are concert halls and lecture halls. Signage defining access to escape routes should be visible from all points in both types of open area.