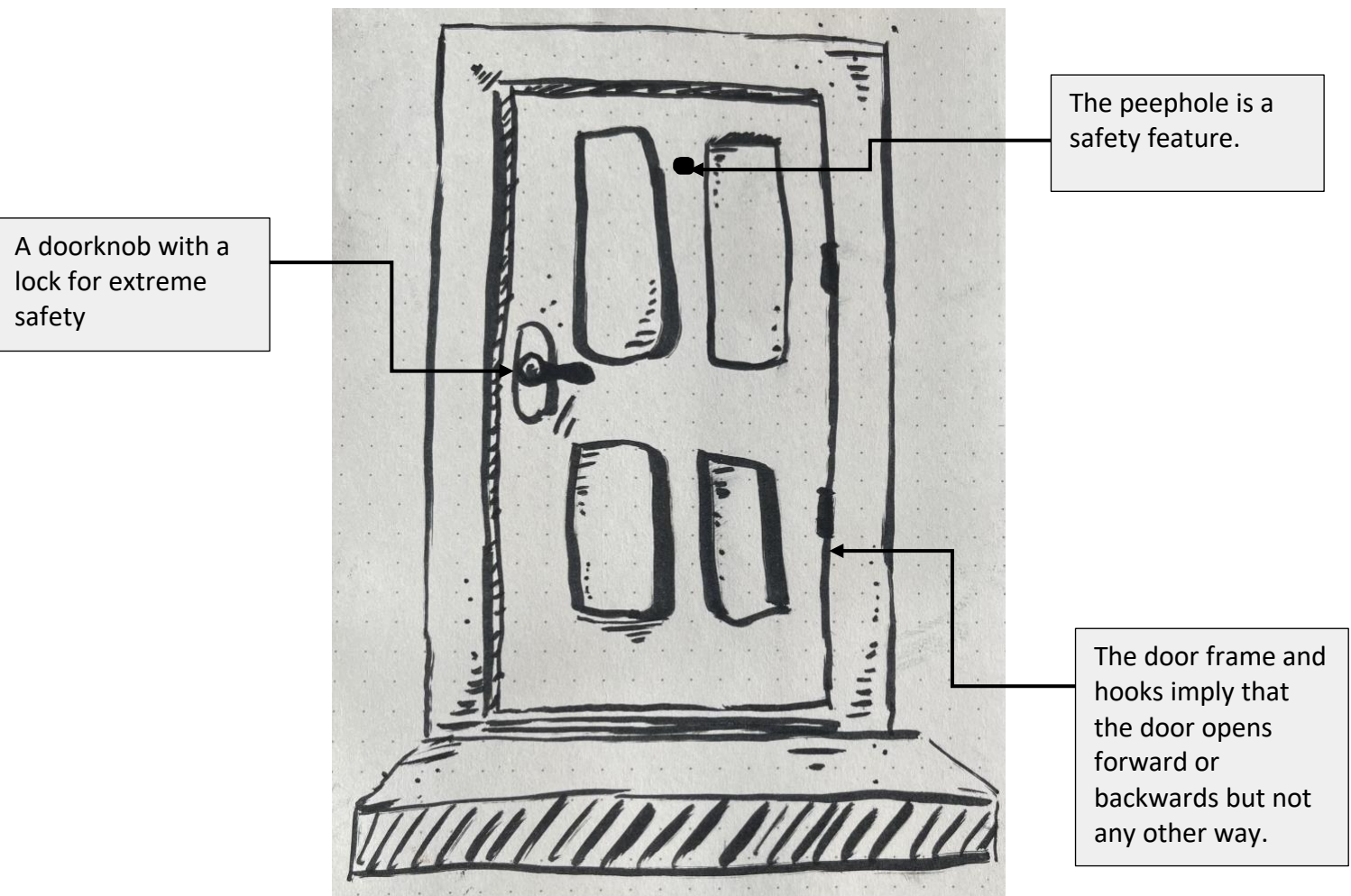


## Design Methods - Assignment 2

The two doors I picked for this assignment are the main door of my apartment and the entrance to the lady's washroom on the 3rd floor of the GSB building.

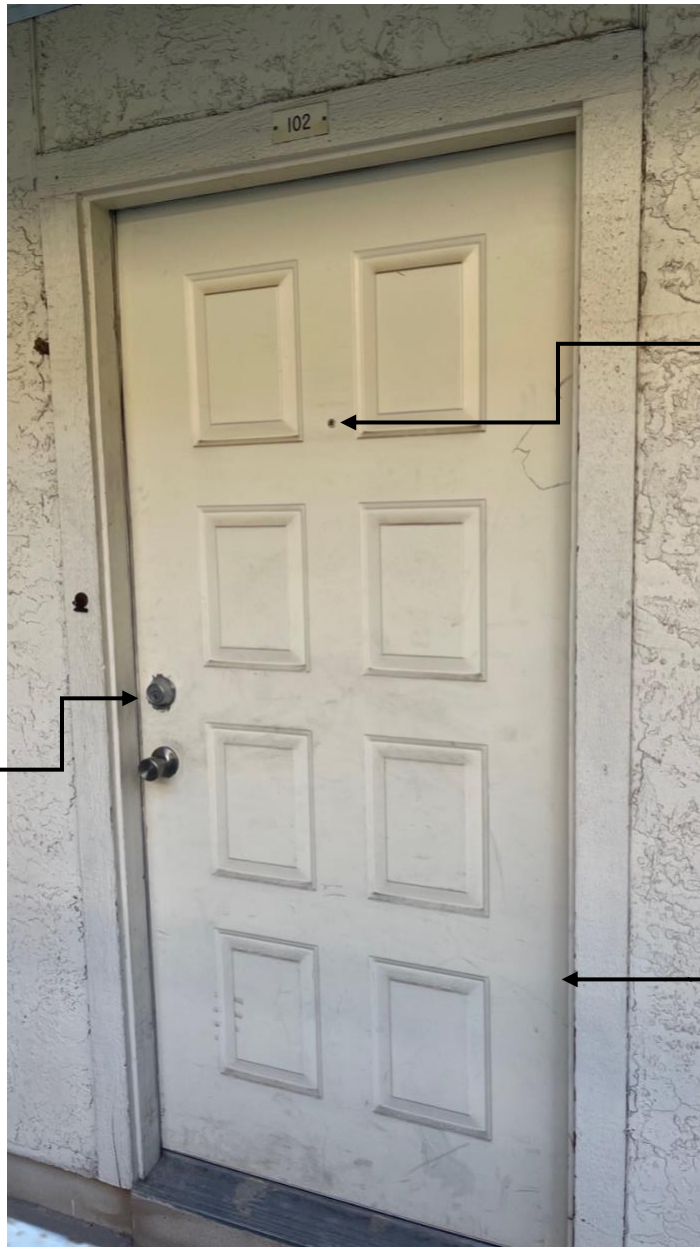
Before we dive into the details of these two examples. Here is a picture of a door I doodled with some basic requirements for a main door of a house.



For the house's main doors, aesthetics plays a vital role. Signs like push or pull don't fall into the list of priorities, but safety is one of the most essential requirements one must keep in mind. We have features like the peephole and safety locks to achieve these design goals. Various lock based designs can be incorporated - Password/code-based locks, voice recognition locks and face recognition locks. Let's consider our first door and see how many of these requirements are met.

### First Door: Main door of my apartment

Here is the picture of my entrance door.



This peephole is placed at a height I can't reach (I am 5' 6").

I wish the person who designed this door had access to the book 'The measure of man and woman' by Henry Dreyfuss.

The doorknob situation seems perfect from the front view (more about this in the following picture)

Door frame makes it obvious that this door needs to be pushed.

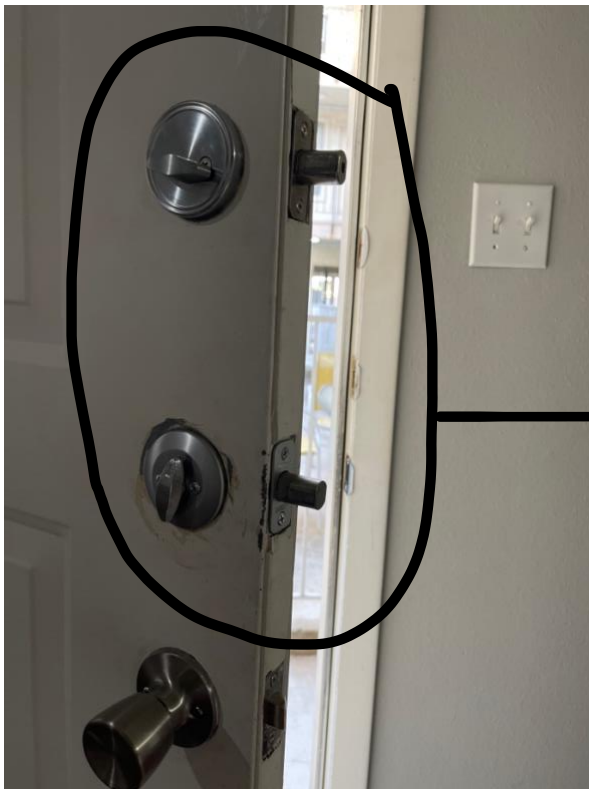
\*Please ignore the mess

This door is opaque and is made of wood, so it's sturdy and provides a sense of privacy which is one of the main objectives. Some entrance doors can be transparent. For example, Cafe doors tend to be transparent to let the customers see through. The design of this door is pretty simple with minimum complexity. It serves the purpose with little impediment. One primary constraint of the main entrance door is safety, a feature that can be negotiable in other house doors. In the following picture, we'll see how over-engineering the safety feature totally defeats the purpose of the door.

Here is a picture of the door from the other side.



Designers took the safety feature to the next level by adding two locks to this door but is this addition worth the effort?

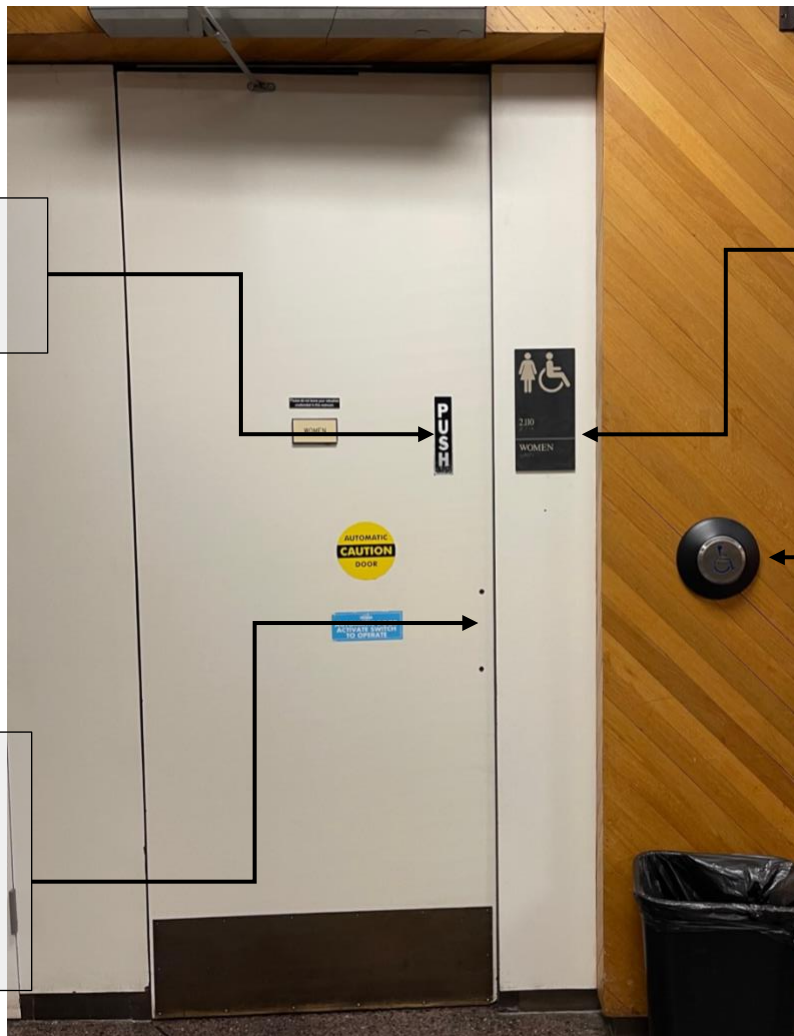


As we can see from the pictures, it has not one but 2 locks. The first lock has a keyhole that can be accessed from the front. Therefore, if someone were to lock the house from inside, we still have a way to enter it. Granted, we have the keys to that lock. The second lock is where things tend to get a little complicated. There is no practical use for this double lock. Also, this can cause trouble entering the house because there is no way to access it from the other side.

Ultimately, I think this door can function perfectly with no hitches by removing the second lock.

### Second door: Lady's washroom entrance in GSB building

Here is a picture of the door to the washroom



Multiple signs indicate how to operate this door.

Clear symbols are used to represent gender.

A button designed for disabled people, which upon pressing, would automatically open the door.

The door handle was removed to further remind the user that this need is supposed to be pushed.

Entrances like these tend to have higher traffic, so the design goals differ from a traditional door in a house. Signs that allow the user to navigate through the door become extremely important. A few posters on this door are: 'Push', which removes the considerable confusion and often embarrassing experience of push and pull.

'Caution Automatic door', this particular helps one look for the button that will enable the door to open automatically. Accessibility for everyone, both disabled and abled, is another critical feature. This feature fascinates me because it is 'pretty cool' to not have to push the door and just walk through it, almost like casting a magic spell. 'Women', assigning genders to the washroom to avoid confusion. In this example, they have used a symbol to represent gender. The logo they have used is straightforward to interpret. We know the influence of visuals; this is an excellent example to demonstrate this further.

Here are a few examples of signs that represent gender which can be hard to decode for a few.



Source: <https://www.ranker.com/list/funny-bathroom-signs/ashley-reign>, Google images. Ranker 2022  
<https://www.canstockphoto.com/toilet-signs-he-she-wc-door-symbols-66981540.html>, Google image. Can Stock Photo Inc., 2022-07-14

Here is a picture of the door from the other side



A pull sign here  
would be a great  
addition

The back of the washroom door is relatively simple and straightforward. Here we have a handlebar that would let one pull the door to open it; however, a 'Pull' sign on the door would avoid a few confusions that may occur.

The primary purpose of this door is convenience, and it achieves this with almost no extra effort from the user. I really love the design of this door. If I were to pick a favorite between the two doors, then it would definitely be this door.