

# Hinge Positioning & Quantity

## Guide for Lift Off Hinges - Positioning & Quantity

Lift-off hinges are a type of hinge made up of two parts which allow door removal without the need to open the door. The use of lift-off hinges is the most common building solution used for access into fully enclosed sanitary compartments.

The National Construction Code states mandatory requirements where a sanitary compartment is not considered large enough to allow safe removal of an unconscious occupant within a sanitary compartment. Current National Construction Code requirements (2015) for construction of sanitary compartments states the following:

### *Clause 3.8.3.3 Construction of sanitary compartments*

*The door to a fully enclosed sanitary compartment must*

- (a) open outwards; or*
- (b) slide; or*
- (c) be readily removable from the outside of the compartment, unless there is a clear space of at least 1.2 m, measured in accordance with the closet pan within the sanitary compartment and the doorway.*

*A sanitary compartment is stated as any room or space that contains a closet pan or a urinal.*

*If the enclosure has gaps that are large enough to allow access for a person into the sanitary compartment, the compartment is not considered enclosed for the purpose of this clause.*

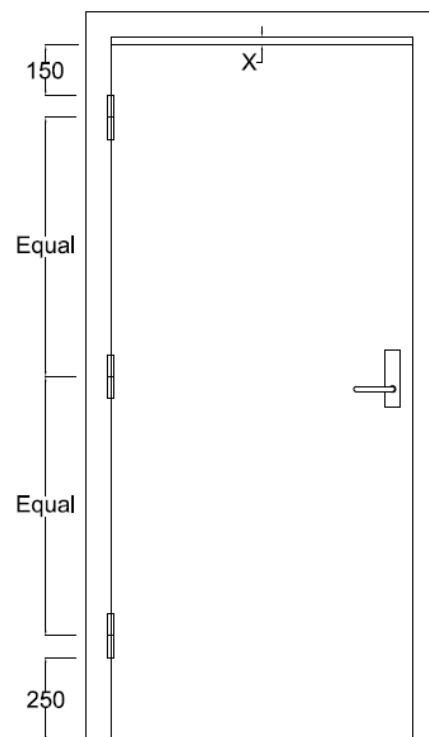
As a guide hinge positioning as follows:

- The top hinge is to be approximately 150mm down from the top of the door. The bottom hinge is to be approximately 250mm from bottom of the door. **See example A.**
- The third hinge if required is centred between the top and bottom hinges.
- These hinge are to be recessed into the door edge and frame to a depth equal to the thickness of the hinge leaf.
- Mark and pre-drill all fixing screw holes before installing the hinges.

For the door to lift-off, the undercut at the top of the door be the length of the hinge pin +15mm. So, if the hinge pin length is 15mm in length the door should be undercut approximately 30mm. This should allow the door to be lifted and moved clear.

### NOTE:

That for lift-off type doors it is often impractical to fit more than 2 hinges per leaf due to the alignment requirements of hanging and the potential for removing the door. As the door is designed to be removed in an emergency then it should be light weight and in most instances two hinges per leaf will suffice.



Example A

X = Door undercut - Hinge Pin Length + 15mm