

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS



In addition to the material available on the homeSAFE Campaign website, home elevator owners should read their user's manuals carefully and understand its contents.

Are home elevators safe?

Yes, home elevators are built to meet very stringent industry safety standards. Additionally, home elevators must meet state and local codes and inspections.

What should homeowners consider when trying to determine if their home elevator is safe?

Most home elevators are designed for years of dependable and trouble-free operation when installed, operated and maintained in accordance to the user's manual and industry safety standards. Below are key points homeowners should consider when evaluating the safety of their home elevator:

- **Installation** – Ensure your home elevator has been installed by a licensed installer. Some states require elevator installers and mechanics to pass a licensing exam. Check with your state's individual licensing agencies for specific requirements. In addition, some industry associations also offer certification for qualified workers. Although not required, certification can show competence and proficiency in the field.
- **Inspection** – Some states require that elevators are inspected by an independent, qualified professional prior to use or when any alterations are made to ensure the home elevator is in compliance with applicable industry safety standards. Some state laws require elevators are inspected annually; however, check with your home elevator mechanic for the inspection schedule best for your home elevator.
- **Safe Operation and Maintenance** – As with all electrical and mechanical equipment, proper operation by the homeowner along with periodic maintenance performed by a qualified professional are absolutely required for the equipment to perform as intended. To find a licensed mechanic in your area, please visit your state's department of labor and licensing web site. As a rule of thumb, most home elevator dealers provide preventative home maintenance plans.

Does a home elevator require regular maintenance?

Yes. Just like your automobile or furnace, a home elevator is a mechanical investment which requires ongoing maintenance to ensure functionality and safety. Homeowners are responsible for ensuring maintenance and upkeep is performed on a regularly scheduled basis. Consult your owner's manual for the recommended service interval. Many home elevator dealers can provide preventative home maintenance plans.

What does a home elevator inspector do?

A home elevator inspector is an individual knowledgeable of elevator equipment who is qualified to inspect elevators and other vertical transportation equipment to ensure the equipment has been installed and maintained properly and to code. A home elevator inspector has three areas of responsibility: conduct safety inspections, perform or witness elevator safety tests and provide the homeowner with a report noting any deficiencies.

Who should service a home elevator?

Homeowners should use only authorized home elevator dealers or other qualified professionals to perform all required maintenance, service or repair work. Mechanics and installers should be trained or licensed by an authority having jurisdiction (AHJ) in your area such as your state's Department of Labor and Industries or Public Safety. Inspection and service frequencies vary based on the type of elevator installed in a home and how often it is used.

For more information, visit www.homesafecampaign.com.