

Activity 3.36

[S2008/S2008-intro3]

Elevators typically have a close-door button. Some people claim that this button has no mechanical function; it's there just to give impatient people some sense of control over the elevator.

Design and conduct an experiment to test whether the button does cause the elevator door to close. Pick an elevator with such a button and record some details about the elevator itself: place installed, year installed, model number, etc.

Describe your experiment along with the measurements you made and your conclusions. You may want to do the experiment in small teams and use a stopwatch in order to make accurate measurements. Presumably, you will want to measure the time between when the button is pressed and when the door closes, but you might want to measure other quantities as well, for instance the time from when the door first opened to when you press the button.

Please don't inconvenience other elevator users with the experiment.

Enter Text | Activity 3.36-1