

Complete Entrance Systems for educational facilities



Choose the doors with more *life*— for new construction or renovation



All across the country, rising enrollment and aging school buildings are driving a boom in the construction of new educational facilities, and the renovation or expansion of old ones. Whether you're planning new construction or just replacing old doors, Special-Lite® Doors can provide a complete entrance solution. Since 1971, school architects, contractors and maintenance directors have relied on Special-Lite for heavy-duty doors, panels and framing uniquely suited to the demands of the educational environment. At Special-Lite, we believe new school doors should outlive any bond issue that funded their purchase, and that's just how we build them. No other door can live and thrive in this environment as well as ours.

The average age of school buildings across the U.S. is 42 years*



Create your entrance from a palette of possibilities

A complete line from one source

Special-Lite manufactures a complete line of heavy-duty flush, monumental and colonial-style doors, panels, and framing products, including storefront framing. Our doors are available in a wide variety of face sheet materials and finishes, with a range of complementary vision lite kits, pulls, louvers, and accessories to help you create exactly the entrance you need.

Suit your own style

Every Special-Lite entrance is a custom solution. We work directly with architects, contractors, and building end-users to create exactly the right entrance for your application. We can match any architectural style, from the classic arch-topped entrance of an ivy-covered dormitory, to the sleek, contemporary look of a mall-style high school lobby.

Choose colors that last

We offer a rainbow of color choices in anodized or painted finishes for aluminum. Choose clear, dark bronze or black standard anodized colors, or three optional colors: medium bronze, light bronze or champagne. For durability, all Special-Lite anodized finishes are architectural grade, class 1 (0.7 mil). For painted finishes, select one of twenty established Kynar® colors. Or we can match the custom color of your choice. Our exclusive Speclite 3® Fiberglass Reinforced Polyester (FRP) door face sheets are fade-resistant and available in a variety of standard colors. Non-Speclite 3® FRP face sheets can be painted any color.



The warmth of wood without the work

For the traditional look of wood without the upkeep, nothing beats the lasting beauty of our Acrylic Modified Polyester (AMP) wood grain doors. Available in flush or 6-panel colonial styles, they're the perfect complement to classic architecture. Select one of six wood stain finishes, any of our established paint colors, or a custom paint color. With a variety of vision lite and muntin options you can create just the look and feel you want, without creating more work for the maintenance department. For interior applications that require a fire rating we also offer AMP-clad fire-rated doors with ratings of 30, 45, 60 or 90 minutes.

Kynar® is a registered trademark of Arkema Inc.



Heavy-duty engineering, right to the core

All Special-Lite entrances are engineered with advanced construction features to outlast our competitors' look-alike doors. Every flush door is built extra strong, with aluminum perimeter stiles and rails, hardware reinforcements, mitered corners and full-width galvanized steel tie rods.

A minimum of 5 lbs./cu.ft. poured-in-place waterproof urethane foam bonds all door components together to provide incredible strength and thermal insulation superior to values published for hollow metal doors. Face sheets are locked in place by integral reglets in the door perimeter to create an absolutely flush edge without separate screw-applied capping.

Special-Lite® Monumental Doors feature the same tie rod joinery plus true mortise-and-tenon construction for superior durability. Whichever you choose, Special-Lite Doors are the toughest doors your school can get.



The right combination of durability and aesthetics

Our FRP doors have survived everything from the country's toughest missile impact test to the country's roughest students. In fact, they're so tough they're hurricane rated. The Speclite 3® finish available on our .120" thick FRP face sheet is extremely resistant to dents, scratches, scuffs, paint and ink, so even tough stains like graffiti can be removed with environmentally-responsible green cleaners. The chemical resistance of our FRP doors also makes them ideal for corrosive environments such as pools, kitchens, labs and boiler rooms. For applications requiring fire ratings we also offer FRP-clad fire-rated doors with ratings of up to 90 minutes.

Special-Lite® FRP Doors are also available in an aesthetically-pleasing, fine-grained sandstone texture in both fire-rated and non fire-rated models. The more subtle texture and less glossy surface make these doors perfect for openings not expected to see heavy abuse or vandalism.





Tough enough to
take anything you
throw at them

Reduced weight means longer-lasting doors and hardware

Big, bulky, heavy doors are fine for bank vaults, but not elementary schools. The unique design and advanced engineering of Special-Lite Doors give them great strength for tremendous abuse tolerance, without unnecessary weight. Reduced weight ensures that even the littlest kindergartner can open or close them safely and easily. Lighter doors are also much easier on hardware, framing and wall anchors to prolong the life of the entire entrance.

We hired an independent testing laboratory to simulate many hard lifetimes worth of opening and closing cycles to see just how much our doors could really take. After 25 million cycles, the door showed no signs of excessive wear or fatigue and still had plenty of life left.

But don't think our doors offer only lightweight security just because they weigh less. They provide excellent break-in resistance, especially when specified with security grates and our tamper-resistant flush pulls.



"I have 700 to 800 kids going through those doors daily. Junior high and high school kids think nothing of kicking doors open and slamming doors out hard. When no one else is around, they use pocket knives and paper clips to carve their initials in the door panels. They spray paint them, too. But since we started replacing the old doors with Special-Lite, we have taken their 'fun' away."

Director of Maintenance in a central
Oklahoma school district



Oversize doors are no problem at Special-Lite

Your entrances can be specified with removable center posts or mullions to allow pianos, large equipment, even marching bands to pass through with ease. Our FRP doors can even be ordered up to 80" wide by 216" tall for laboratories, gymnasiums, or anywhere you need an extra-large opening. Cutouts for monorails are no problem either.



Enhance security with internal proximity card readers and security screens

Many Special-Lite Doors can be prepped for field installation of low-profile proximity card readers inside the door. Internal mounting keeps the reader out of sight, out of the weather, and out of the reach of vandals, improving security and protecting the card reader unit.

Available security grates and vandal screens provide additional security for doors that are subjected to abuse or vandalism. Our security grate can be used over vision lites, bi-fold units, louvers, or other areas where a high level of protection is required. Vandal screens provide moderate security while allowing excellent visibility.





Slam the door on unnecessary maintenance costs

Naturally, price is a concern when you specify entrance products. But don't confuse purchase price with ownership cost. Hollow metal doors are certainly the cheapest to purchase, but when their true ownership costs are considered, including painting, repainting, repairing and periodic replacement, hollow metal doors can be very expensive indeed. Do the math and you'll see that the least expensive doors to own are trouble-free, low-maintenance, Special-Lite Doors.

Renovate entrances with Special-Lite® Insert Framing

When replacing metal doors, you can save yourself the hassle of tearing out rusty old metal frames by covering them in place with our capping system and insert frames. It's a fast, money-saving way to make a tired entrance look and perform like new. Or use our insert framing alone for an even more cost-effective solution.



Simplify your life— with entrance solutions from Special-Lite

A complete entrance from a single source

Special-Lite can supply a complete entrance solution—doors, frames, hardware, and panels. Enjoy the convenience, reliability and performance advantages of having a complete, ready-to-install entrance supplied by a single source, delivered to the job site in a single, on-time shipment. Single-sourcing ensures proper door and frame fit, correct hardware operation, exact finish match, and longer entrance life. We can even ship doors with hardware and glass installed, significantly reducing expensive job site labor and installation time, and preventing last-minute problems.



Improve indoor air quality with Special-Lite Doors

By definition, one side of every exterior entrance is inside the building, so the entrance products specified play a role in determining indoor air quality (IAQ). Special-Lite's full line of exterior entrance products* are the first to be GREENGUARD Indoor Air Quality Certified®, including the stringent new GREENGUARD Standard for Children & Schools™. GREENGUARD Certification is your independent assurance of IAQ performance.



A warranty that really works

We stand behind our products with an uncomplicated, 10-year, 100% parts and labor warranty. Plus, we offer an additional limited lifetime warranty on our flush door models. Ask your sales representative for a copy of our warranty statement, and compare it to what other supplier warranties actually cover after all of their exclusions and limitations. You'll see that when you specify Special-Lite, you're really covered.

*Excludes fire-rated doors.
The GREENGUARD INDOOR AIR QUALITY CERTIFIED Mark is a registered certification mark used under license through the GREENGUARD Environmental Institute.



Discover entrance systems with more *life*. Contact your sales representative or Special-Lite for more information.

Special-Lite, Inc.

P.O. Box 6, Decatur, MI 49045
Ph: 800.821.6531 • Fx: 800.423.7610 • www.special-lite.com

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