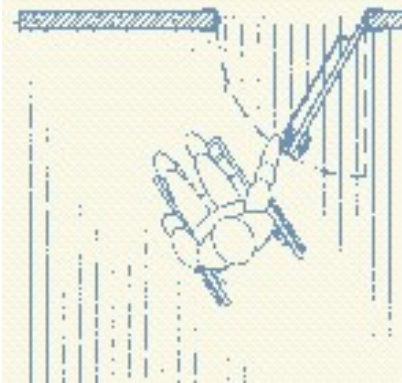




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*Choosing the
Right* **Doors**



Choosing the Right Doors



Door Closers

A spring closer has been installed on this screened door so the leaf must be held open during passage. If the force is too great, the closer can make it difficult for some wheelchair users to hold it open as they pass through. Very little force is necessary to shut a light screened unit, but more spring tension is required for a heavier leaf like an entry door.

HOMES HAVE DOZENS OF DOORS

that serve many functions and contribute to interior and exterior aesthetics. But certain installations can present barriers to people who use wheelchairs, walkers, or other assistive devices. To avoid creating barriers or making passage awkward, it is important to select each door carefully. There is no universally correct door, so for each one in your home consider the purpose and evaluate the available options. Each door type has advantages and disadvantages in specific installations. If you are undertaking a limited remodeling project, there are also some “tricks” that may help you deal with existing doors that are too narrow or installed in confined locations.

The original purpose for doors was probably safety. Primitive structures had removable barriers that occupants installed to protect themselves from danger. With the advent of forged hinges and keyed locks, doors were easier to operate and more effective deterrents to entry. Safety and security remain important functions for modern exterior doors, and selection of security components, such as locksets, deadbolts, and peepholes, is criti-