



1300 Sumner Avenue  
Cleveland, Ohio 44115-2851  
Phone: 216-241-7333 • Fax: 216-241-0105  
E-mail: [dasma@dasma.com](mailto:dasma@dasma.com)

## Rolling Door Advantages

### Introduction

Rolling doors were first introduced in Columbus, Ohio, in 1895. The simple, robust, and compact design appealed to designers and owners of commercial buildings, and a thriving market was created. In the 21<sup>st</sup> century, rolling doors are still a product category of choice for millions of consumers worldwide. What is it about these doors that has stood the test of time, providing enduring value for generations? This Technical Data Sheet outlines some of these advantages and offers architects, end users and door dealers some guidelines for product selection and installation.

### Advantages

1. Compact designs. Since rolling doors coil onto themselves during operation, limited room is required. The required space in the building, both over head (vertically) and perpendicular to the wall (depth-into-room) are kept to a minimum. Rolling doors therefore can be installed with minimal impact to pipes, fans, ducts, conduits, and other obstructions typically found in commercial buildings around openings.
2. Vast range of door sizes. Rolling doors are available in widths or heights ranging from less than 2 feet to over 60 feet.
3. Customizable. Rolling door designs can be highly customized to fit special applications.
4. Minimal components. Rolling door designs contain few component types, simplifying maintenance and repair. Slats curtains are held together not by mechanical fasteners but by features of the slat design, and ride freely up and down the guides based on controlled clearances.
5. Material selection. Rolling doors designs are typically available in a wide variety of materials to suit location needs, including but not limited to steel, stainless steel, and aluminum, with any number of finish types and colors to suit environmental needs and consumer preferences.

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**Note: Technical Data Sheets are information tools only and should not be used as substitutes for instructions from individual manufacturers. Always consult with individual manufacturers for specific recommendations for their products and check the applicable local regulations.**

This Technical Data Sheet was prepared by the members of DASMA's Rolling Door Division Technical Committee. DASMA is a trade association comprising manufacturers of rolling doors, fire doors, grilles, counter shutters, sheet doors, and related products; upward-acting residential and commercial garage doors; operating devices for garage doors and gates, sensing devices, and electronic remote controls for garage doors and gate operators; as well as companies that manufacture or supply either raw materials or significant components used in the manufacture and installation of the Active Members' products.

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6. Durability. A properly designed, installed, and maintained rolling door is robust and resilient, and will provide exceptionally long service life. Look for rolling doors that comply with DASMA standards (<https://www.dasma.com/dasma-standards/>) and that are installed and regularly serviced by IDEA-certified rolling steel door systems technicians.
7. Mounting versatility. Rolling doors are able to be mounted to steel, wood, and masonry jambs and headers. They can be mounted between jambs, virtually eliminating side room requirements. They can be mounted under lintel, virtually eliminating head room requirements. They can be mounted with any combination of these jamb and header materials or conditions. Rolling doors can be mounted onto the exterior of buildings when needed.
8. Operational versatility. Rolling doors can be operated by manual lift-up, chain hoist, crank, or electric motor operator. Operators can be mounted in a variety of positions and locations such as above, to the side of, or in front of the door, and even on the other side of the wall.
9. Wind load resistance. Rolling doors of any size can be designed to withstand the stiffest wind loads required by building codes for hurricane or tornado conditions.
10. Security. Rolling doors offer high levels of security against forced entry.
11. Fire Rating. Rolling doors are available with up to 4 hr. fire ratings to meet fire code requirements.
12. Ventilation. A variety of options such as grilles, ventilated slats, and vision slats, are available to enhance visibility and air flow.

## Conclusion

Rolling doors offer distinct advantages that have served the construction industry for many decades. New designs have evolved to meet the ever-expanding needs of the worldwide commercial marketplace. Discuss your application with DASMA Rolling Door Division members or IDA dealers to explore how the above attributes, along with the many other available features and options, can drive solutions for your business.

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