

Is Your Building In Sync?

A building **Rhythm Analysis checklist** from Boon Edam

Understand the rhythm of your building and uncover what matters most in complex, high-traffic entrances.



Every building has a *unique rhythm*

It's a pulse shaped by people in motion and the technology that keeps daily activity in sync.

When this rhythm is balanced, everything feels effortless. *Comfort rises. Security strengthens. Energy loss is reduced.*

When it falls out of sync, the experience shifts. *Queues form. Energy is wasted. Safety becomes uncertain.*

And the entrance, the first and last touchpoint of a building, no longer works in harmony with the space it serves. **Up to 15% of a building's users are moving through it during any five-minute period.** These moments are the true test of performance.



This document is designed to help you:

- **Build awareness of how movement shapes entrance performance**
- **Evaluate how your entrance responds under pressure**
- **Question where energy efficiency may be improved**
- **Understand where expert guidance adds value**
- **Review how emergency response supports safe operation**
- **Consider how smarter monitoring can reduce disruption**

The Complexity Behind a Simple Moment

Building managers and architects are frequently tasked with a deceptively complex challenge: ensuring people move efficiently and comfortably through buildings and entrances. On paper, capacity looks predictable. In reality, people rarely behave as models suggest.

Human factors include:

- Personal space preferences - heightened further in a post-pandemic world
- Luggage, trolleys and mobility aids

- Group behaviour versus individuals
- Familiarity with the building and the entrance
- Differences in walking speed, awareness and responsiveness

Each of these factors can significantly influence real-world throughput, often exceeding theoretical calculations. What appears sufficient on a spreadsheet can quickly become a bottleneck in reality. Taking the time to consider these practical dynamics and discussing them with an entrance expert is essential to shaping an entry and exit strategy that performs in everyday life, not just on paper.



Peak moments define performance

Morning arrivals. Lunch circulation. Event surges. Emergency scenarios.

These moments place intense, short-term pressure on entrances, revealing whether a building has been planned with people in mind or whether it has been fitted with any entrance. Too often, decisions are made late in the process, without a full understanding of occupancy patterns or future use. The result is under-specification, which restricts movement, or over-specification, which adds unnecessary cost and complexity. Neither serves the building, or the people within it.



“Human behaviour affects real capacity. People all react differently depending on where they are in the world. Different cultures, different weather conditions – they all influence how people behave.”

Designing for rhythm, not just movement

Effective entrance planning is not about selecting a door. It is about understanding people. Their rhythm. Their behaviour. Their expectations today, and how those expectations may evolve tomorrow.

This should be considered early in the decision-making process, alongside architectural intent and operational strategy. When architects, building managers, and entrance specialists collaborate from the outset, entrances become part of a responsive ecosystem - where movement, technology, and energy performance work in sync.

The benefits are tangible:

- Bottlenecks are designed out before they appear
- Long-term costs are reduced through the right solutions for your space

- Safety, comfort and energy efficiency are embedded, not added later at extra cost
- The entrance works in sync with the building's purpose

At its best, an entrance is more than a threshold. It sets the tone for the entire experience - creating trust, clarity and calm from the first step inside.

When we plan for real behaviour, not idealised assumptions, entrances become part of the eco-system.

They adapt.
They welcome.
They perform.

Not just at a moment in time, but throughout the building's life.



Understanding the **ecosystem** around your entrance

The rhythm of a building is shaped by more than what happens inside its walls. While internal flow and occupancy play a vital role, movement is also influenced by the wider environment around the entrance. How people arrive, where they come from and what surrounds the building all affect how pressure builds and releases throughout the day.

*Rhythm begins **beyond the entrance***

Arrival patterns often begin forming minutes - or even streets - before users reach the door. Public transport creates predictable waves of movement, with short peaks driven by timetables, while car arrivals tend to generate a steadier flow. Nearby transport hubs, neighbouring buildings, shared public spaces, or surrounding destinations can further intensify these patterns.

Understanding this broader context helps reveal whether an entrance is responding only to internal demand or truly working in rhythm with life around it.

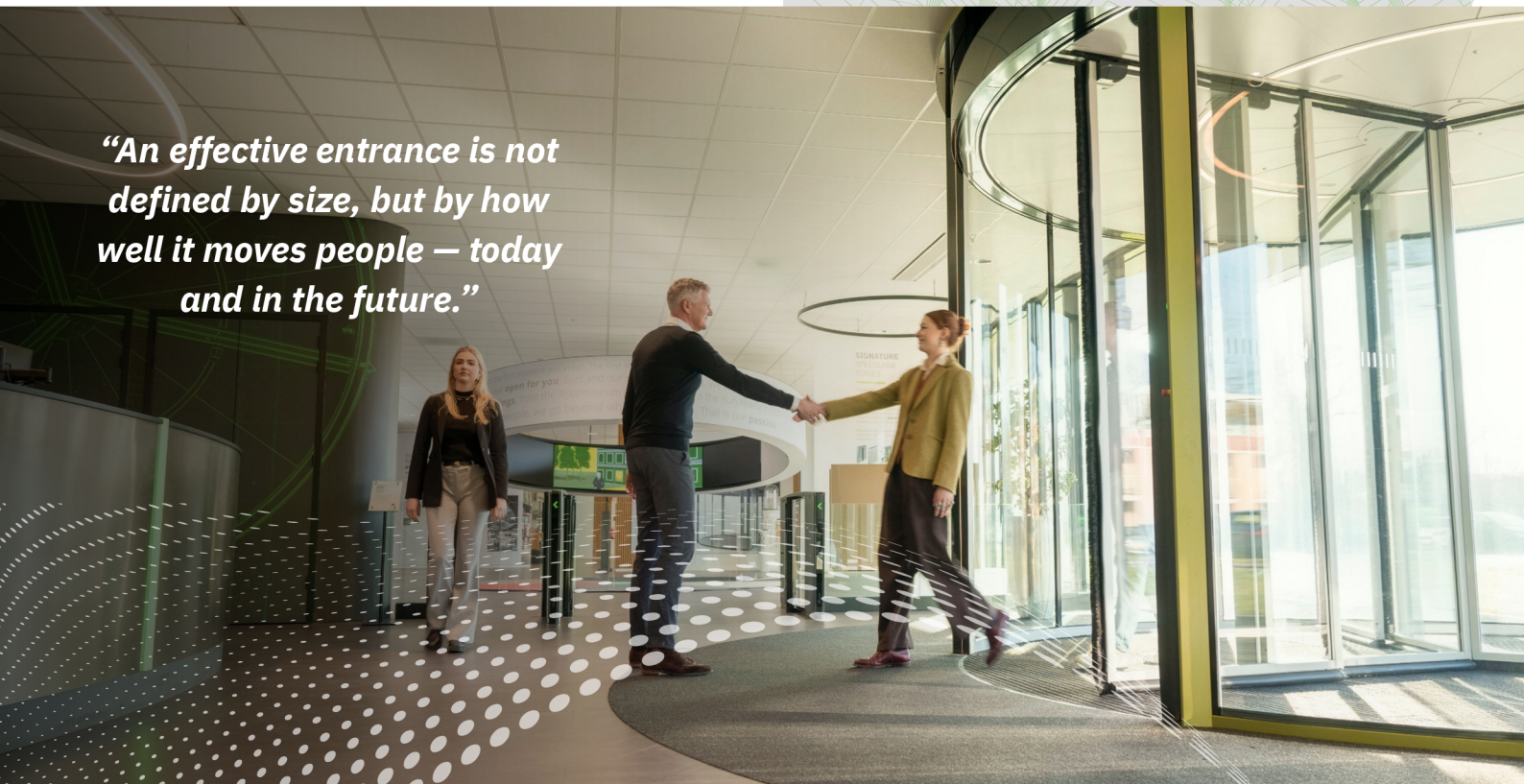
Not all building teams consider movement patterns at this level. Those who do are gaining clearer insight into how their entrances truly perform and where small adjustments can deliver meaningful impact.

A Rhythm Analysis consultation offers a structured starting point for deeper conversations about movement, access and experience.

Book your Rhythm Analysis session 



“An effective entrance is not defined by size, but by how well it moves people – today and in the future.”



Your Rhythm Analysis checklist

We created the Rhythm Analysis checklist to help bring your building's daily rhythm into focus, highlighting where performance may be under pressure and where expert insight can help clarify your next steps.

What type of **space** is this?

- Office
- Data centre
- Hotel
- Retail
- Mixed use
- Transport Hub
- Pharmaceutical
- Critical Infrastructure

What is the **primary function** of the entrance?

- Daily staff access
- Visitors
- Public access
- Secure entry

Is the entrance mainly inbound, outbound or balanced?

Who are the **main users**?

- Employees
- Visitors
- Public
- Travellers

Will users carry large items? (luggage, equipment, trolleys)

- Yes
- No

How would you describe **daily movement** at your building?

- Consistent and predictable
- Steady with mild peaks
- Highly variable
- Frequent surges or bottlenecks

Should the entrance **prioritise**:

- High throughput
- Comfort
- Security
- Climate separation

Typical **daily volume** (estimate):

- < 500
- 500–2,000
- 2,000–5,000
- 5,000+

What percentage of building users are considered persons who may **require additional support**? (mobility, visual or hearing aids, wheelchairs, families and children, elderly)

- 0–5%
- 6–25%
- 26–50%
- More than 50%

What **matters most** to you and your users?

- Accessibility
- Speed of movement
- Premium appearance
- Safety and confidence
- Energy efficiency
- Low maintenance

How do users **typically arrive** at the building?

- Public Transport
- Car
- Bike or Foot

Is your building close to any public transport hubs?

- Yes
- No

When does the building experience **peak movement**?

- Morning
- Lunchtime
- Evening
- Irregular

Are staff required to intervene during peak moments?

- Yes
- No

Is **personal space** a key consideration?

- Yes
- No

Are cultural or regional behaviour patterns relevant?

- Yes
- No
- Unsure

Are there **nearby high-volume buildings** (stations, theatres, event venues) that influence footfall at your entrance?

- No noticeable influence
- Occasional peak-time increases
- Regular spillover affecting movement
- Significant impact daily

Do you expect the usage of the building to **change in the future**?

- Yes
- No

What are your **current challenges**?

- Tailgating
- High traffic volumes
- Unclear entry or escape routes
- Mix of public and private access
- Need for staff monitoring
- Congestion
- Entrance downtime
- Trolleys or large items

Does your entrance **architecture and identity** need improvement?

- Modernise appearance
- Improve user experience
- Enhance sustainability
- Align with brand or tenant expectations

How easy is your current entrance to **manage day-to-day**?

- Simple and reliable
- Occasionally requires support
- Frequently causes frustration
- Impacts daily operations

Do entrance **doors remain open** longer than expected during busy periods?

- Yes
- No

Are drafts or temperature changes noticeable near the entrance at peak times?

- Yes
- No

Do you expect entrance **usage patterns to change** over the next 5–10 years?

- Yes
- No
- Maybe

What Your Responses Reveal

Your responses help build a clear understanding of the rhythm of your building today and where it may need to adapt. They highlight movement patterns and key pressure points, providing important insights for developing a strong entrance strategy for today and the future.

Turning Insight into Direction

Once you have completed the checklist, we invite you to book a Rhythm Analysis consultation with our entry experts to review your results. This dedicated session reviews your checklist responses in the context of your building or plans, its users and its daily demands. Together, we explore what the findings mean in practice and where adjustments may support a stronger entrance experience. By combining structured analysis with an understanding of real-world behaviour, we help you make informed decisions that support entrances which are welcoming, resilient and in rhythm with life.

Continue your Rhythm Analysis:

[Book a Consultation Today](#) 

We help buildings stay *in Rhythm*





Since 1873, we have helped shape the rhythm of building ecosystems, delivering premium entrance and access solutions trusted in some of the world's most dynamic landmarks. Today, this legacy continues through our international network, with manufacturing in the Netherlands, the United States, and China, supported by local teams and partners across key markets.

Together with our trusted partners, we deliver solutions that create long-term value and true return on investment - combining proven expertise with local understanding to support every stage of a building's life.

We co-create welcoming, intelligent, aesthetic and secure entrance solutions that adapt, respond and evolve - engineered for performance today and for the generations who will move through them tomorrow.



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