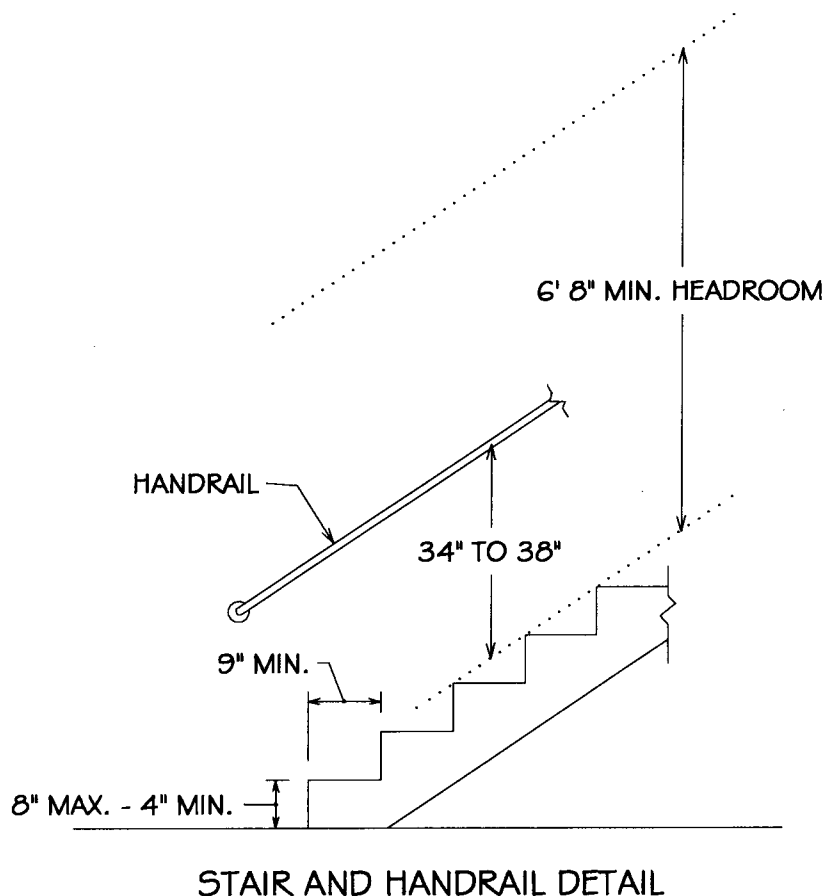


# RESIDENTIAL STAIRS AND LANDINGS

## TOWN OF PARADISE BUILDING DIVISION

### STAIRWAYS (CBC 1003.3.3)

Stairways shall be a minimum of thirty-six inches wide. Handrails may project into the minimum width no more than 3 1/2 inches on each side. Trim may project into the required width only 1 1/2 inches on each side. The maximum rise of each step is eight inches; the minimum rise is four inches. The minimum run is nine inches. The largest tread width or riser height in any flight of stairs shall not exceed the smallest by more than 3/8 inch.



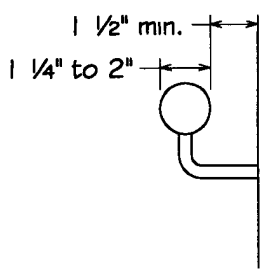
Every stairway must have a headroom clearance of not less than 6' 8" measured vertically from the plane of the tread nosing to the soffit above at all points.

A landing is required at the top and bottom of each stairway. Indoor landings must be level, but outdoor landings should slope for drainage, no more than 1/4 inch per foot. Stairway landings must be at least as wide as the stairway and at least 36 inches long in the direction of travel. The maximum vertical distance between landings is 12 feet.

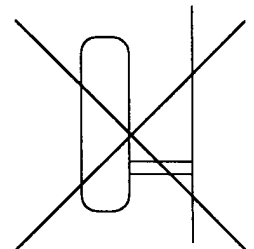
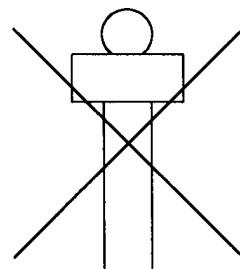
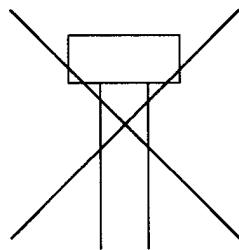
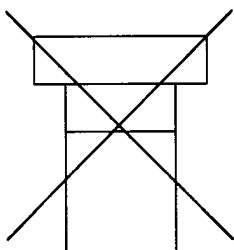
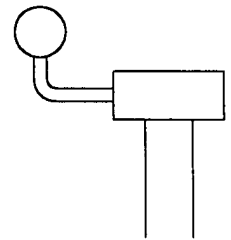
Enclosed usable space under stairs must be protected on the enclosed side by 1-hour fire-resistive material such as 5/8" type X gypsum wallboard.

STAIRWAY HANDRAILS (CBC 1003.3.3.6)

The intent of a handrail is to provide a handgrip for people using a stairway. Stairways which serve an individual dwelling unit must have a handrail on one side if they have four risers or more. Such stairways with fewer than four risers are not required to have handrails. However, an open side must be protected by a guardrail (see below) where the adjacent standing surface is more than 30 inches lower than the stairs. Handrails must be continuous for the full length of the stairs. Handrails projecting from a wall shall have not less than 1 1/2 inches between the wall and handrail. Handrails must be placed between thirty-four and thirty-eight inches above the nosing of the stair treads. The handgrip portion of handrails shall not be less than 1 1/4 inches nor more than 2 inches in cross-sectional dimension or the shape shall provide an equivalent gripping surface. The handgrip portion of handrails shall have a smooth surface with no sharp corners.



ACCEPTABLE SHAPES

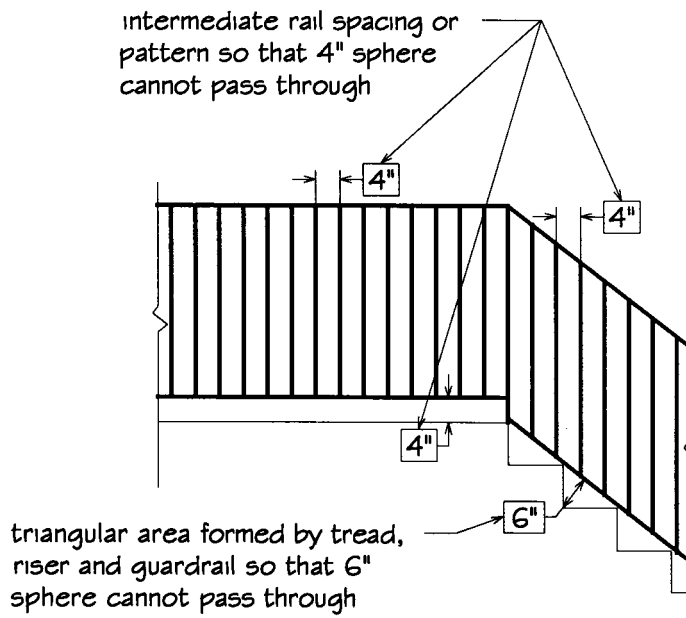


UNACCEPTABLE SHAPES

## GUARDRAILS (CBC 509)

The intent of a guardrail is to prevent people, particularly small children, from falling off the edge of a horizontal surface. Open sides of floor openings, stairways, landings, ramps, balconies, or porches, which are more than 30 inches above grade or the floor below shall be protected by a guardrail.

The top of residential guardrails must be at least 36 inches above the upper standing surface. Guardrails must have intermediate rails or an ornamental pattern placed in such a manner that a sphere four inches in diameter cannot pass through. The triangular openings formed by the riser, tread and bottom element of a guardrail at the open side of a stairway may be of such size that a sphere 6 inches in diameter cannot pass through.



## DOOR LANDINGS (CBC 1003.3.1.6-7)

Every door, with one exception, must have a landing on each side. The exception is at the top of an **interior** stairway, where the door may be located directly at the top of the stairs, provided it swings away from the stairs. Each landing must be as wide as the door and at least 36 inches long in the direction of travel. The door in its fully open position must not reduce the landing width by more than 7 inches. The elevation of the landings on each side of a door may differ by as much as 8 inches, but only if the door swings over the higher landing. Thresholds must be no higher than 1 inch above the highest landing. Indoor landings must be level, but outdoor landings should slope for drainage, no more than 1/4 inch per foot.