



Skamania County Building Department

Skamania County Courthouse Annex

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RESIDENTIAL HANDRAILS

Handrail for stairway and ramps

R3 1 1.7.8. Handrails

Handrails shall be provided on at least one side of each continuous run of treads or flight with four or more risers.

R3 1 1.7.8.1 Height

Handrail height measured vertically from the sloped plane adjoining the tread nosing, or finish surface of ramp slope, shall be not less than 34 inches and not more than 38 inches.

R3 1 1.7.8.2 Continuity

Handrail-gripping surfaces shall be continuous for the full length of the flight, from a point directly above the top riser of the flight to a point directly above the lowest riser of the flight. Handrail ends shall be returned or shall terminate in newel posts or safety terminals. Handrails adjacent to a wall shall have a space of not less than 1 1/2 inch between the wall and the handrails.

R3 1 1.7.8.3 Grip-size

All required handrails shall be of one of the following types or provide equivalent graspability.

Type I. Handrails with a circular cross section shall have an outside diameter of at least 1 1/4 inches and not greater than 2 inches. If the handrail is not circular, it shall have a perimeter dimension of at least 4 inches and not greater than 6 1/4 inches with a maximum cross section of dimension of 2 1/4 inches. Edges shall have a minimum radius of 0.01 inch.

Type II. Handrails with a perimeter greater than 6 1/4 inches shall have a graspable finger recess on both sides of the profile. The finger recess shall begin within a distance of 3/4 inch measured vertically from the tallest portion of the profile and achieve a depth of at least 5/16 inch within 7/8 inch below the widest portion of the profile. This required depth shall continue for at least 3/8 inch to a level that is not less than 1 3/4 inch below the tallest portion of the profile. The minimum width of the handrail above the recess shall be 1 1/4 inches to a maximum of 2 3/7 inches. Edges shall have a minimum radius of 0.01 inch.

Not acceptable

