

STAIRS, LANDINGS, HANDRAILS, AND GUARDS

- A building permit is required for any stairway serving any part of a dwelling or accessory structure. This includes exterior stairs from a dwelling or garage to grade, as well as stairs serving decks, porches, balconies, sun rooms, and similar structures.
- Along with the completed and signed Building Permit Application, submit:
 - Two copies of plans showing the proposed design, including:
 - Plan and elevation views
 - Rise and run dimension
 - Riser size and species
 - Location in relation to property lines for exterior stairs.
 - Additional information may be required by the plan reviewer
 - List what construction materials are to be used.
- All materials and the installation of all materials must comply with the Minnesota State Building Code and the manufacturers' installation specifications for each product.

PERMIT CARD AND APPROVED PLANS (throughout the project) shall be:

POSTED prior to start of work - **VISIBLE** from street or driveway - **ACCESSIBLE** to the inspector

INSPECTION REQUIREMENTS:

- **MUST** schedule during office hours **AT LEAST** one business day prior to required inspection. If a specific date and/or time will be required, more notice may be needed – please plan ahead. A re-inspection fee may be charged for failure to cancel an inspection for which you are not ready, or for failure to pass an inspection.
- Office Hours: Monday - Friday • 8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
- Phone: (952) 442-7520 or (888) 446-1801

Inspection: See your permit card to determine which of the following inspections are required for your project.

- **Footings:** After holes are dug, but **PRIOR TO POURING CONCRETE.**
- **Framing:** Before covering.
- **Final:** After project is complete.

Warning: The inspector may issue an order to remove materials to verify compliance with the MN State Building Code and manufacturer's installation requirements.

If a re-inspection is required, a re-inspection fee will apply. The permit holder (the signing applicant) or the permit holder's representative must meet the inspector at the site to provide access. The re-inspection will not be conducted if the re-inspection fee is not paid.

Note: The State of Minnesota requires that all residential building contractors, remodelers, and roofers obtain a state license unless they qualify for a specific exemption from the licensing requirements. Any person claiming an exemption must provide a copy of a Certificate of Exemption from the Department of Labor & Industry to the Municipality before a permit can be issued.

Note: To determine whether a particular contractor is required to be licensed or to check on the licensing status of individual contractors, please call the Minnesota Department of Labor & Industry at 651-284-5065 or toll free 1-800-342-5354.

Note: The aforementioned criteria represent general code requirements relative to a project. For specific code requirements, please contact the Building Inspection Department at 952-442-7520 or 888-446-1801 or e-mail: info@mnspect.com.

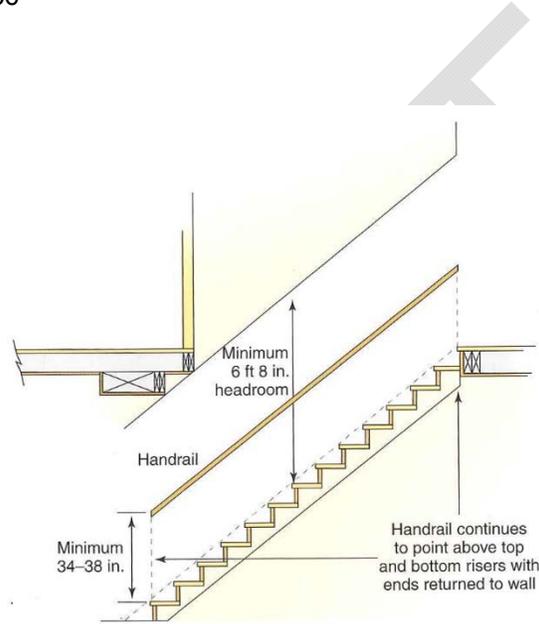
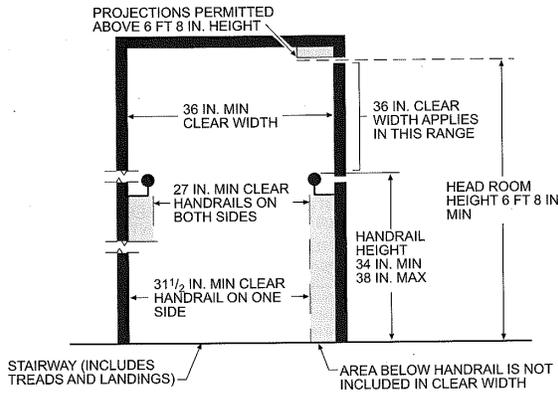
PROJECT INFORMATION:

The following is a guideline to assist in compliance with the requirements of the MN State Building Code.

- Before you build, check required setbacks established by your municipality.
- BEFORE DIGGING, CALL "GOPHER STATE ONE CALL" AT 811. The person doing the excavation is responsible for verifying that there are no conflicts with utilities, both public and private.

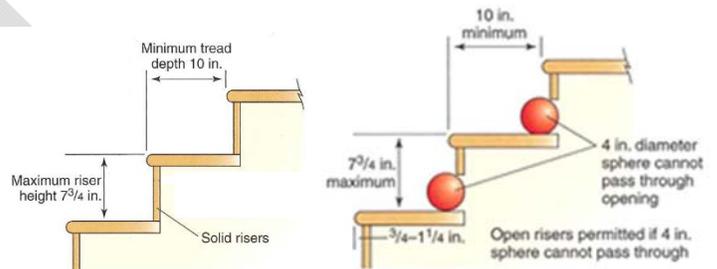
STAIRWAYS

- Minimum stairway width measured above handrail-36"



- Riser height-maximum 7 3/4"
- Tread depth-minimum 10"
- Maximum 3/8" between tallest and shortest riser
- Maximum 3/8" between greatest and smallest tread
- Open risers must prevent passage of 4" sphere
- Nosing projection-minimum 3/4", maximum 1 1/4"

- Headroom-minimum 6'-8"

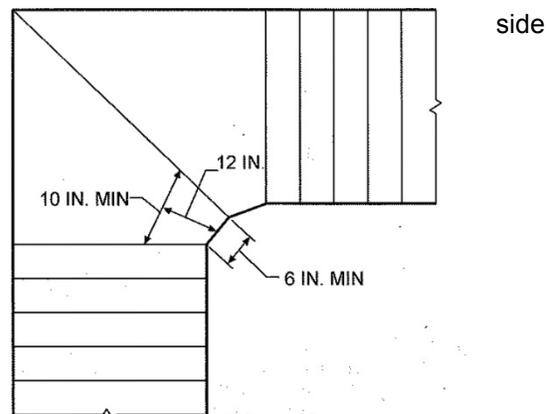


Winding stairs

- Walkline concentric to & 12" from narrow
- Tread depth-minimum 6" at narrow side
- Tread depth-minimum 10" at walkline
- Dimensional uniformity required at walkline

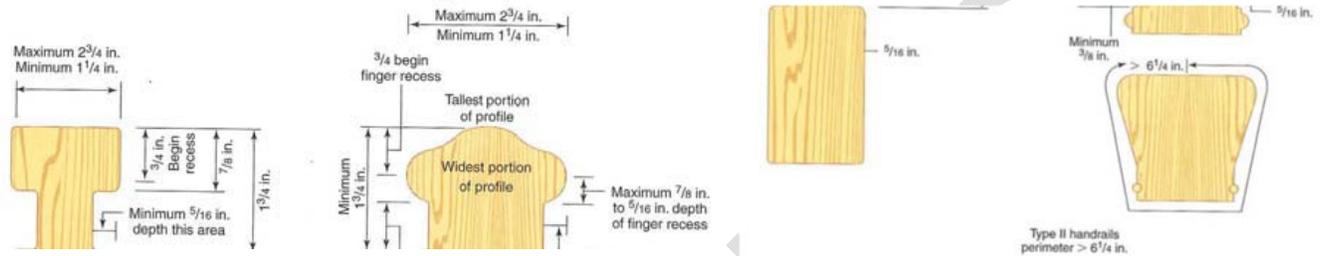
LANDINGS AT STAIRWAYS

- Minimum width no less than the width of the flight served
- Minimum 36" deep landing required at top & bottom of each stair flight
- Vertical rise between floors or landings-12 feet



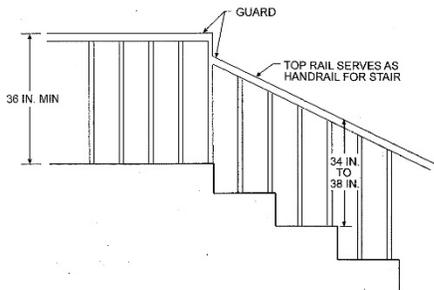
HANDRAILS

- Required on at least one side of flights of stairs with four or more risers
- Top of handrail 34"-38" above line connecting nosing of stairs
 - Volute, turnout, or starting easing OK over lowest tread
 - Fitting or bending OK to exceed maximum height at continuous transition between flights, start of flight, or from handrail to guard
- Ends must return to wall, post or safety terminal
- Minimum 1 1/2" space between handrail and wall
- Handrail must be continuous from top riser to bottom riser
 - Maybe interrupted by post at the turn
- Round handrails minimum 1 1/4"-maximum 2" diameter
- Non-round Type I handrails perimeter 4"-6 1/4"
- If perimeter is greater than 6 1/4", grippable finger recess required on both sides of profile



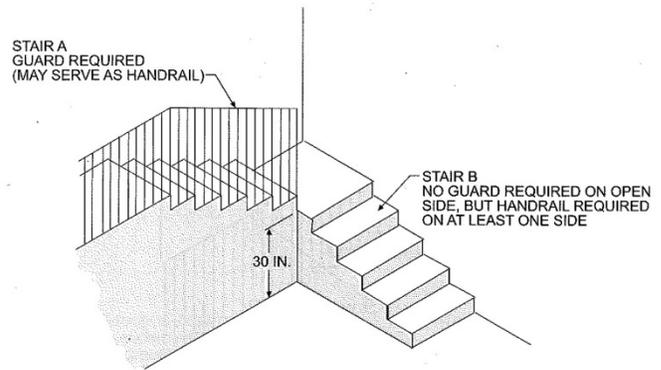
Guardrails

- Required for open-sided walking surface, including stairs, greater than 30" above floor or grade below
- Minimum 36" in height (34" acceptable on open side of stairs)
- Guard acting as handrail 34"-38" above line connecting nosing of treads
- Openings must prevent passage of 4" sphere
 - 6" at triangular opening of riser, tread, & bottom rail
 - 4 3/8" at open sides of stairs



For SI: 1 inch = 25.4 mm.

Figure R312.1(3)
STAIRWAY GUARD



For SI: 1 inch = 25.4 mm.

Figure R312.1(2)
STAIRWAY GUARD

Illumination

- All interior and exterior stairways shall be provided with a means to illuminate the stairs, landings, and treads.
- **Interior stairways**
 - Artificial light source located in the immediate vicinity of each landing of the stairway
 - Capable of illuminating treads and landings not less than 1 foot candle (11 lux)
 - Wall switch required at each floor level, where stairway has six or more risers
- **Exterior stairways**
 - Artificial light source required in the immediate vicinity of the top landing of the stairway
 - Artificial light source located in the immediate vicinity of the bottom landing if the exterior stairway provides access to a basement from the outside grade level
 - Illumination is expected to be controlled from inside the dwelling unit