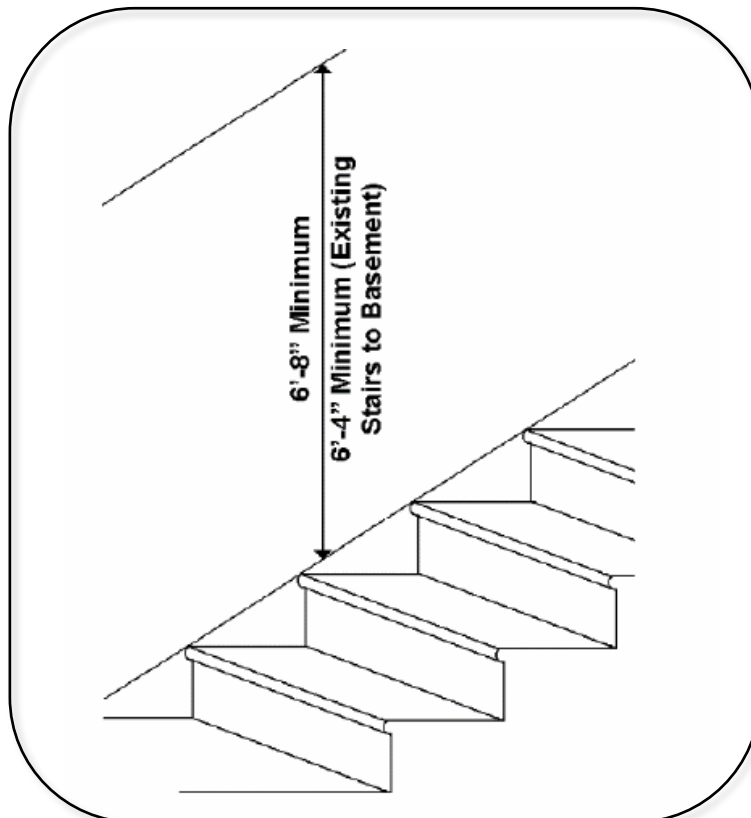


STAIRWAYS, HANDRAILS AND GUARDRAILS

1 & 2 FAMILY DWELLINGS AND TOWNHOUSES



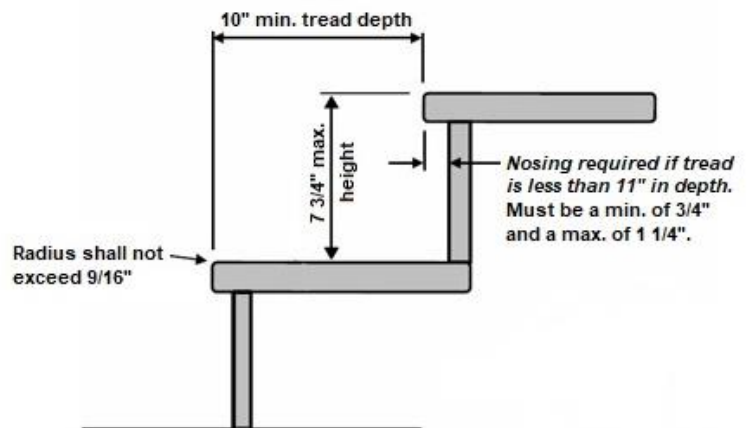
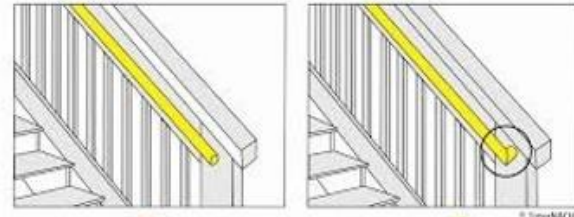
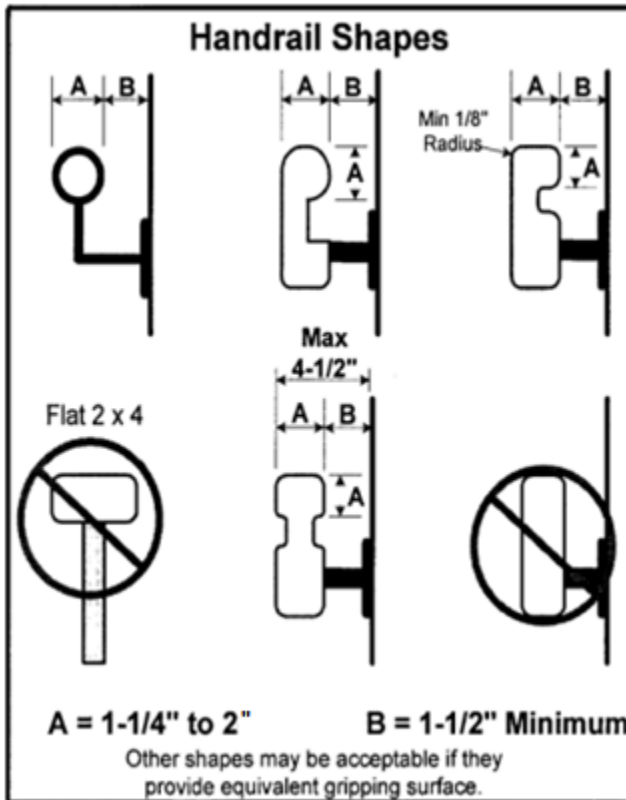
Guardrail Opening Requirements



Stairway Headroom Requirements

STAIRWAYS, HANDRAILS AND GUARDRAILS

1 & 2 FAMILY DWELLINGS AND TOWNHOUSES



General Building Code Requirements

- A stairway with 4 or more risers shall have a handrail on at least one side with a height between 34 and 38 inches measured vertically from the nosing of the tread to the top of the handrail.
- Handrails shall be returned to wall, guard or the walking surface or be continuous to the handrail of an adjacent stair flight.
- Handrails must be installed at least 1 1/2" from adjacent walls but shall not project more than 4 1/2" on either side of the stairway.
- The diameter of circular handrails must be a minimum of 1 1/4" but not greater than 2".
- Non-circular handrails must have a perimeter dimension of at least 4" but not greater than 6 1/4" with a maximum cross-section dimension of 2 1/4".
- Stairways shall have a minimum width of 36". The maximum riser height shall be 7 3/4" with the greatest riser height within any flight of stairs not exceeding the smallest by more than 3/8". The minimum tread depth shall be 10" with the greatest tread depth within any flight of stairs not exceeding the smallest by more than 3/8".
- The minimum headroom in all parts of a stairway shall be not less than 6 feet 8 inches measured vertically from the sloped line adjoining the tread nosing or from the floor surface of the landing or platform on that portion of the stairway.
- Stairways shall not have a vertical rise of more than 151 inches between floor levels or landings.
- All decks, balconies, porches or stairways which are more than 30" above grade or a floor surface below must be protected by a guardrail. The guardrail shall be a minimum of 36" high and not have any openings that would allow a 4" diameter sphere to pass through.