

# SAN JUAN COUNTY COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BUILDING DIVISION

## STAIRS, EXITS, HANDRAILS AND GUARDRAILS

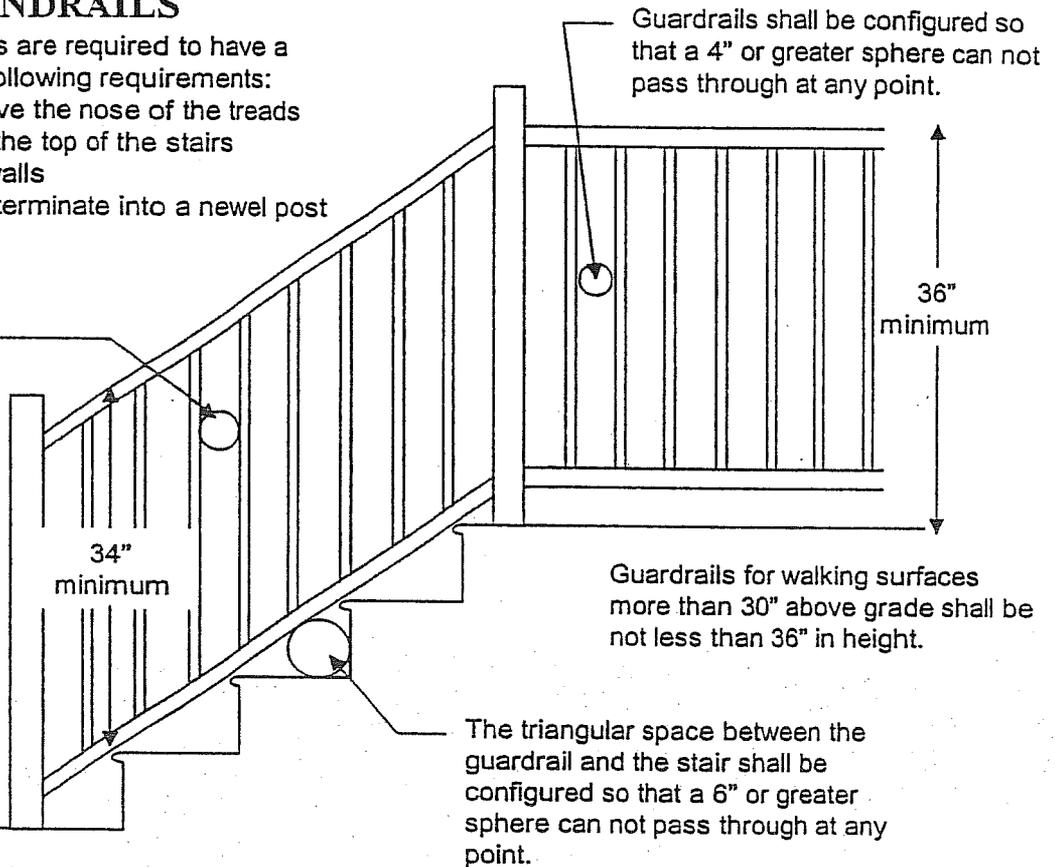
### GUARDRAIL AND HANDRAILS

Stairways with four or more risers are required to have a graspable handrail meeting the following requirements:

- Located between 34" – 38" above the nose of the treads
- Continuous from the bottom to the top of the stairs
- Located a minimum 1½" from walls
- Ends shall be returned or shall terminate into a newel post

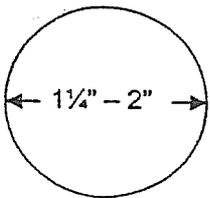
Guardrails on stairs shall be configured so that a 4-3/8" or greater sphere can not pass through at any point.

Guardrails for stairways, with a total rise greater than 30", shall be not less than 34" in height.

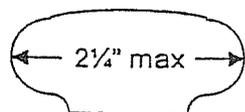


### HANDRAIL CONFIGURATIONS

#### Type I Handrails



Circular cross-section –  
Diameter: 1 1/4" – 2"



Non-circular –  
Perimeter: 4" – 6 1/4"  
Cross-section: 2 1/4" max.

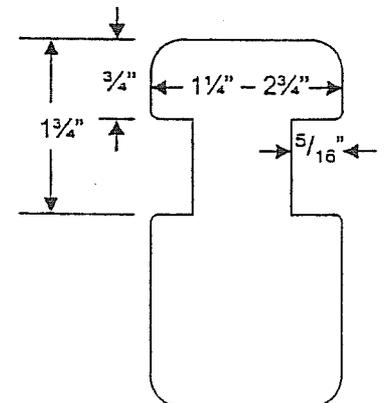
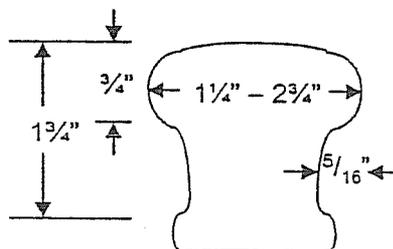
#### Type II Handrails – Perimeter greater than 6 1/4" with graspable finger recesses

Cross-section: 1 1/4" – 2 3/4" above the finger recess

Finger recess depth: 5/16" minimum

Finger recess location:

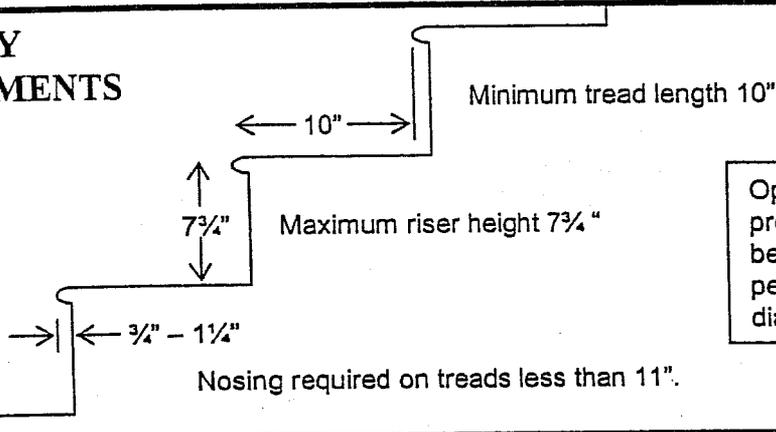
- Must begin a maximum of 3/4" from top
- Must extend at least to 1 3/4" from the top



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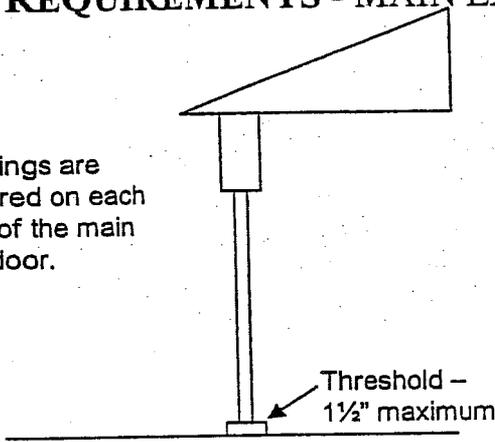
### STAIRWAY REQUIREMENTS



Open risers are permitted, provided that the openings between the treads does not permit the passage of a 4" diameter sphere.

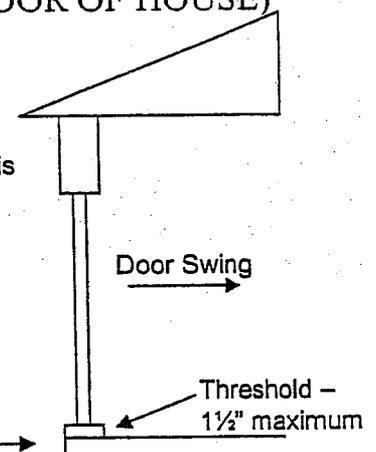
### EXIT REQUIREMENTS - MAIN EXIT DOOR (FRONT DOOR OF HOUSE)

Landings are required on each side of the main exit door.



One step ( $7\frac{3}{4}$ " maximum) is permitted outside the main entry door when the door does not swing over the step.

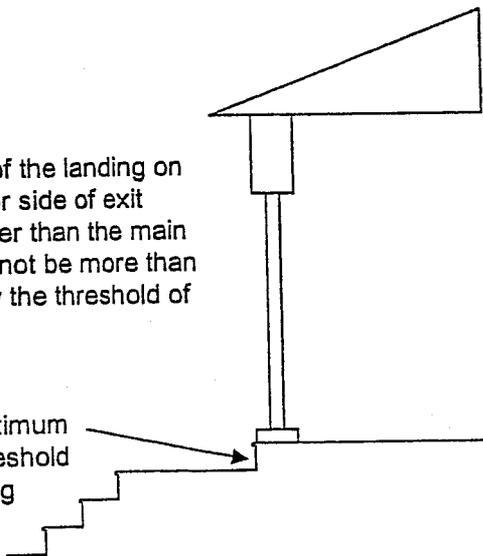
Step  $7\frac{3}{4}$ " maximum from top of threshold



### EXIT REQUIREMENTS - DOORS OTHER THAN THE MAIN EXIT DOOR

The floor of the landing on the exterior side of exit doors (other than the main exit) shall not be more than  $7\frac{3}{4}$ " below the threshold of the door.

$7\frac{3}{4}$ " maximum from threshold to landing



Where a stairway of two or less risers is located on the exterior side of an exit door (other than the main entry door) a landing is not required.

