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TOSA - STAIRS and HANDRAILS

(list is not all inclusive)

Dimensions

- A.** Stairways shall not be less than 36 inches in clear width above the handrails. Handrail projections are limited to not more than 4.5 inches on either side of the stairway. (CRC Sec.R311.7.1) .
- B.** Headroom shall not be less than 6 feet 8 inches measured vertically from the sloped line adjoining the tread nosings. (CRC R311.7.2).
- C.** Riser height shall not exceed $7\frac{3}{4}$ inches. The greatest riser height within any flight of stairs shall not exceed the smallest by more than $\frac{3}{8}$ ". (CRC Sec.R311.7.5.1).
- D.** Tread depth (measured between the nosings) shall be at least 10 inches. The largest tread depth within any flight of stairs shall not exceed the smallest by more than $\frac{3}{8}$ ". (CRC Sec.R311.7.5.2).
- E.** Nosings not less than 0.75" but not more than 1.25" shall be provided on stairways with solid risers if the tread depth is less than 11". The radius of curvature at the nosing shall be no greater than $\frac{9}{16}$ inch. (CRC Sec.R311.7.5.3).
- F.** Open risers are permitted, provided that the opening between treads does not permit the passage of a 4-inch diameter sphere. The opening between adjacent treads is not limited on stairs with a total rise of 30 inches or less. (CRC Sec.R311.7.5.1).

Handrails

- G.** Handrails are required to provide a handgrip with a cross section of $1\frac{1}{4}$ " to 2" for residential and $1\frac{1}{4}$ " to $1\frac{1}{2}$ " for commercial, be installed 34"-38" above the nose of the treads for the entire length of the stairway and have a space of not less than $1\frac{1}{2}$ " between the handrail and adjacent wall. (CBC 1012)(CRC 311.7.8.1)

Guards

- H.** Where guards are required on stairs in a residence, the opening must be less than 4.375 inches. (CBC 1015.4.ex:1)

Landing Requirements

- I.** Exterior doors onto decks/porches shall be provided with landings. The width of each landing shall be not less than the door served. Every landing shall have a minimum dimension of 36 inches measured in the direction of travel. Exterior landings are permitted to have a slope not exceeding $\frac{1}{4}$ unit vertical in 12 units horizontal (2%). (CRC Sec.R311.3).
- J.** Exterior landings at the required egress door shall not be more than $1\frac{1}{2}$ inches lower than the top of the threshold for the outswinging door and not more than $7\frac{3}{4}$ inches below the top of the threshold for the inswinging door. (CRC Sec.R311.3.1).
- K.** Doors *other* than the required egress door shall be provided with landings not more than $7\frac{3}{4}$ inches below the top of the threshold. (CRC Sec.R311.3.2). Exception: A landing is not required where a stairway of two or fewer risers is located on the exterior side of the door, provided the door does not swing over the stairway.

Building Codes: All work must comply with the 2016 California Residential Code (CRC) or 2016 California Building Code (CBC)