



Family and
Human Services

Services à la famille
et à la personne



PEI Home Renovation Programs
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Minimum Requirements for Ramps and Landings Guide

Construction of ramps and landings must adhere to the structural requirements as per the most current version of the National Building Code of Canada (NBC) and *standards for Barrier Free Design*.

The contractor shall consult with the home owner and provide details to describe the type of construction and the materials to be used for construction of ramps and landings.

Minimum Requirements for Ramps

- Ramps constructed (floated) on concrete deck blocks will not be funded.
- All exposed wood is to be pressure treated.
- Wood ramps shall be built with pressure treated lumber and shall have a maximum gradient of 1:12.
- Ramps shall be mechanically fastened to Sonotube cement footings / galvanized steel auger piles / or pressure treated piers and shall be installed to below frost depth and shall be spaced as per the most current version of the NBC.
- Ramps shall have a clear width of not less than 34¼".
- A 5'x5' level area shall be provided at the top and bottom of the ramp.
- The ramp shall be provided with a guardrail and handrail on both sides, with a vertical height of not less than 34" and not more than 38".
- A clearance of not less than 2" shall be provided between a handrail and any surface behind it.
- All handrails shall be constructed so as to be continually graspable along their entire length with no obstruction on or above them to break a handhold, except where the handrail is interrupted by newels at changes in direction.
- Newel posts shall be provided at the beginning and termination of rails unless beginning or terminating at the face of a structural wall or post.
- Guard posts shall be spaced to provide structural support to the railing and shall be spaced no less than 4' on center and shall not exceed 6' on center and shall be fastened to the sub structure with carriage or leg bolts.

Minimum Requirements for Landings

- Landings constructed (floated) on concrete deck blocks will not be funded.
- All exposed wood is to be pressure treated.
- The maximum landing size funded is 80ft².
- A threshold for a doorway that services a ramp shall be not more than ½" higher than the finished floor surface and shall be bevelled to facilitate the passage of a wheelchair.

- Landings and steps shall be mechanically fastened to Sonotube cement footings / galvanized steel auger piles / or pressure treated piers and shall be installed to below frost depth and shall be spaced as per the most current version of the NBC.
- There must be a level landing area at the base of the steps at ground level. Concrete patio stone pads or gravel shall be placed so they extend out at least three feet to a width at least equivalent to the step width.
- Stairs shall conform to the following dimensions:
 - Rise not greater than 8" and not less than 6",
 - Run not greater than 14" and not less than 8¼", and
 - Tread depth not greater than 14" and not less than 9¼".
- A guard rail shall be provided to protect all open sides of the landing where there is a difference of 2' or more between the walking surface and the adjacent surface.
 - 36" High rail on landings 2' above adjacent surface, and
 - 42" High rail on landings 5' above adjacent surface.
- Guardrails on landings shall be continuous unless interrupted by a newel post, doorway, or stair.
- A handrail and guard shall be installed on both sides of the stairs and shall terminate at a newel post.
- All handrails shall be constructed so as to be continually graspable along their entire length with no obstruction on or above them to break a handhold, except where the handrail is interrupted by guard posts at changes in direction.
- Newel posts for stairs shall be installed below frost depth unless otherwise fastened with carriage or leg bolts.
- Balustrades, where required, shall be spaced so that the widest opening shall not exceed 4".