

Residential

Comm 21.045 Ramps

Every exterior or interior ramp which leads to or from a required exit shall comply with the requirements of this section.

- (1) **SLOPE.** Ramps shall not have a gradient greater than 1 in 8 or one foot of rise in 8 feet of run. Walkways with gradients less than 1 in 20 or one foot of rise in 20 feet of run are not considered to be ramps.
- (2) **SURFACE AND WIDTH.** Ramps shall have a slip resistant surface and shall have a minimum width of 36 inches measured between handrails.
- (3) **HANDRAILS.** Handrails shall be provided on all open sides of ramps. Every ramp that overcomes a change in elevation of more than 8 inches shall be provided with at least one handrail.
 - (a) Ramps which have a gradient greater than 8.33% or 1:12 or one foot rise in 12 feet of run and which overcome a change in elevation of more than 24 inches shall be provided with handrails on both sides.
 - (b) Handrails shall be mounted so that the top of the handrail is located between 30 to 34 inches above the ramp surface.
 - (c) Open-sided ramps shall have the area below the handrail protected by intermediate rails or an ornamental pattern to prevent the passage of a sphere with a diameter of 4 inches or larger.
 - (d) The clear space between the handrail and any adjoining wall shall be at least 1-1/2 inches.
- (4) **LANDINGS.** A level landing shall be provided at the top, at the foot and at any change in direction of the ramp. The landing shall be at least as wide as the ramp and shall measure at least 3 feet in the direction of travel.
 - (a) 4 feet x 4 feet is the maximum the ramp landing can be built.
 - (b) Landing must be on homeowner's property. It cannot encroach into the terrace or a neighbor's property.