



CITY OF PORTAGE

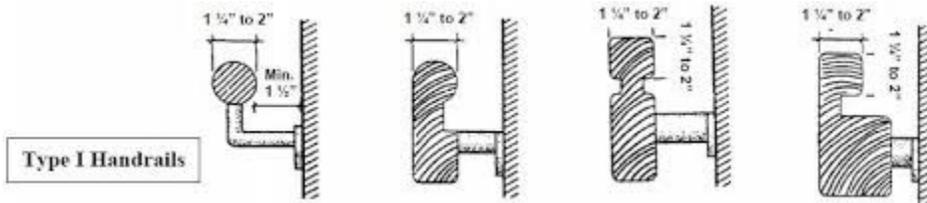
BUILDING DEPARTMENT

6070 CENTRAL AVENUE, PORTAGE, INDIANA 46368

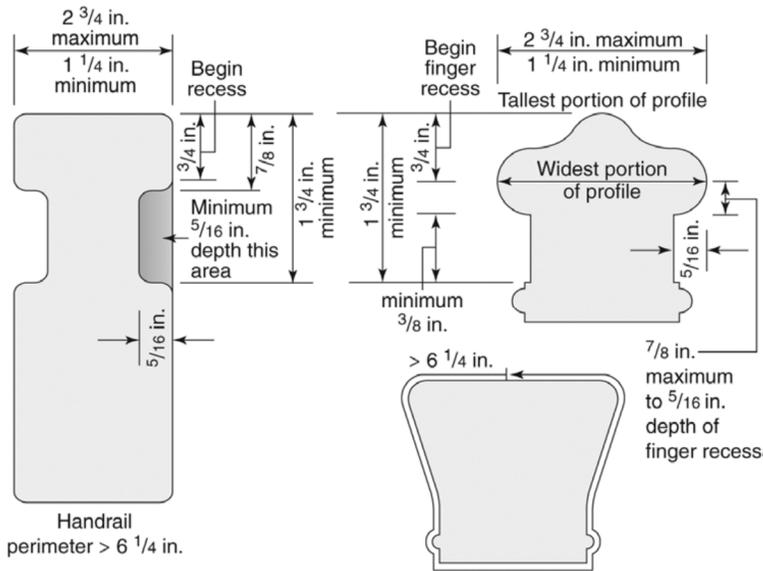
TELEPHONE 762-4204 / FAX 764-5749

2020 Indiana Residential Code for Handrails

Type I. Handrails with a circular cross section shall have an outside diameter of at least 1 ¼ inches (32 mm) and not greater than 2 inches (51 mm). If the handrail is not circular, it shall have a perimeter dimension of at least 4 inches (102 mm) and not greater than 6 ¼ inches (160 mm) with a maximum cross section of dimension of 2 ¼ inches (57 mm).



Type II. Handrails with a perimeter greater than 6 ¼ inches (160 mm) shall have a graspable finger recess area on both sides of the profile. The finger recess shall begin within a distance of ¾ inch (19 mm) measured vertically from the tallest portion of the profile and achieve a depth of not less than 5/16 inch (8 mm) within 7/8 inch (22 mm) below the widest portion of the profile. This required depth shall continue for not less than 3/8 inch (10 mm) to a level that is not less than 1 ¾ inches (45 mm) below the tallest portion of the profile. The width of the handrail above the recess shall be not less than 1 ¼ inches (32 mm) and not more than 2 ¾ inches (70 mm). Edges shall have a radius of not less than 0.01 inch (0.25 mm).



Dimensional properties of Type II handrails

R311.7.8 Handrails. Handrails shall be provided on not less than one side of each flight of stairs with four or more risers.

R311.7.8.1 Height. Handrail height, measured vertically from the sloped plane adjoining the tread nosing, or finish surface of ramp slope, shall be not less than 34 inches (864 mm) and not more than 38 inches (965 mm).

R311.7.8.3 Handrail clearance. Handrails adjacent to a wall shall have a space of not less than 1 ½ inches (38 mm) between the wall and the handrails.

R311.7.8.4 Continuity. Handrails shall be continuous for the full length of the flight, from a point directly above the top riser of the flight to a point directly above the lowest riser of the flight. Handrail ends shall be returned or shall terminate in newel posts or safety terminals.

Exception: Handrails within a dwelling unit shall be permitted to be discontinuous between the top and bottom of a flight of stairs where the ends of the discontinued rail are terminated into or returned to a wall or post and the maximum distance between ends of discontinued rails is not greater than 4 inches (102 mm).