These illustrations apply to private residential stairways only.

Stairways with 4 or more risers require a handrail

Stair stringers and trim may project into the required stairway width no more than 1-1/2" on each side.

Min. required stairway width is 36"

TYPICAL STAIR ELEVATION

Handrail may project a Max. of 4-1/2" into Required stair width 1-1/2" min.

Handgrip: Not less than 1-1/4" or more than 2" in diameter or equivalent grip. If not round, than 2-1/4" max. cross-section and perimeter dimension of 4" min to 6-1/4" max. with 0.01 min. edge radius. (CBC 1012.3)

TYPICAL HANDRAIL DETAILS

0.01" min. edge radius

HANDGRIP EXAMPLE
NOTES:

1. These regulations apply to private residential stairways only. Refer to the 2013 Edition of the California Building Code for the construction of stairs other than private residential.
2. For exceptions related to the construction of winding, circular or spiral stairs, see the 2013 Edition of the California Residential Code.
3. The largest rise or run within any flight of stairs shall not exceed the smallest by more than 3/8”.
4. Stair nosing shall be 3/4” min./1-1/4” max. where tread depth is less than 11”.
5. A landing extending the width of the stair is required at the top and bottom of every stairway.
6. If an intermediate landing is provided, the depth of such shall be equal to or greater than the required width of the stair in which it occurs.
HANDRAILS REQUIRED
ALL STAIRS/WALKWAYS CONTAINING
3 OR MORE STEPS (4 RISERS) REQUIRE
HANDRAILS TO BE INSTALLED

HANDRAIL NEEDED

NO HANDRAIL REQUIRED

36" LANDING