## RAMPS

Reference: ICC/ANSI A117.1 2003

The following information provides specifications and requirements for the building of a ramp to be used by handicapped persons. This is for reference only.

Ramp: A walking surface that has a running slope steeper than 1 unit vertical in 20 units horizontal (5\% slope).

1. Ramps should have a slope not greater than $1: 12$ ratio with a maximum rise of 30 inches for a single run, after which there should be a landing. In existing buildings, ramps shall be permitted to have slopes steeper than $1: 12$ where space is limited and shall comply with the 2021 International Building Code.
2. Cross Slope of ramp runs shall not exceed 1:48.
3. Ramp surfaces shall be stable, firm and slip resistant.
4. Clear width shall be 36 inches minimum between handrails.
5. Maximum rise shall be 30 inches in a single run before a landing is required.
6. Landings shall be at the top and the bottom of each ramp run.

- Width. Clear width of the landing shall be at least as wide as the widest ramp run leading to the landing.
- Length. Landing shall have a clear length of 60 inches.
- Change in direction. When changing direction, ramp landings shall be 60 inches by 60 inches minimum.
- Doorways. Where a landing has a doorway, there should be enough space on the landing to accommodate a wheelchair after the door is opened.


RAMPS
Informational Sheet
7. Handrails. A ramp with a rise greater than 6 inches shall have handrails on both sides.

- Continuity. Handrails shall be continuous within the full length of the ramp run. Inside handrails on switchback ramps shall be continuous between runs.
- Height. The top of the gripping surface shall be 34 inches minimum and 38 inches maximum.
- Extensions. Handrail extensions shall extend horizontally 12 inches minimum beyond the top and bottom of the ramp.



Handrail Cross Section


2

RAMPS
8. Edge protection. Edge protection shall comply with either (a) or (b) as shown below.

9. Guards. Ramps that are over 30 inches from grade shall also have guards installed.

- Height. The guard height shall not be less than 42 inches in height.
- Openings. Balusters shall be such that a 4 inch sphere cannot pass through any opening up to a height of 34 inches. From the height of 34 inches to 42 inches above the walking surface, a sphere of 8 inches in diameter shall not pass. Handrails are still required inside the guards.

