



Building Guide

Building Department | 1281 Hammond Road, White Bear Township, MN 55110
 Phone: (651) 747-2750 | Fax: (651) 426-2258 | wbt@whitebeartownship.org

Single Family Residential Decks and Porches

How to Use this Guide

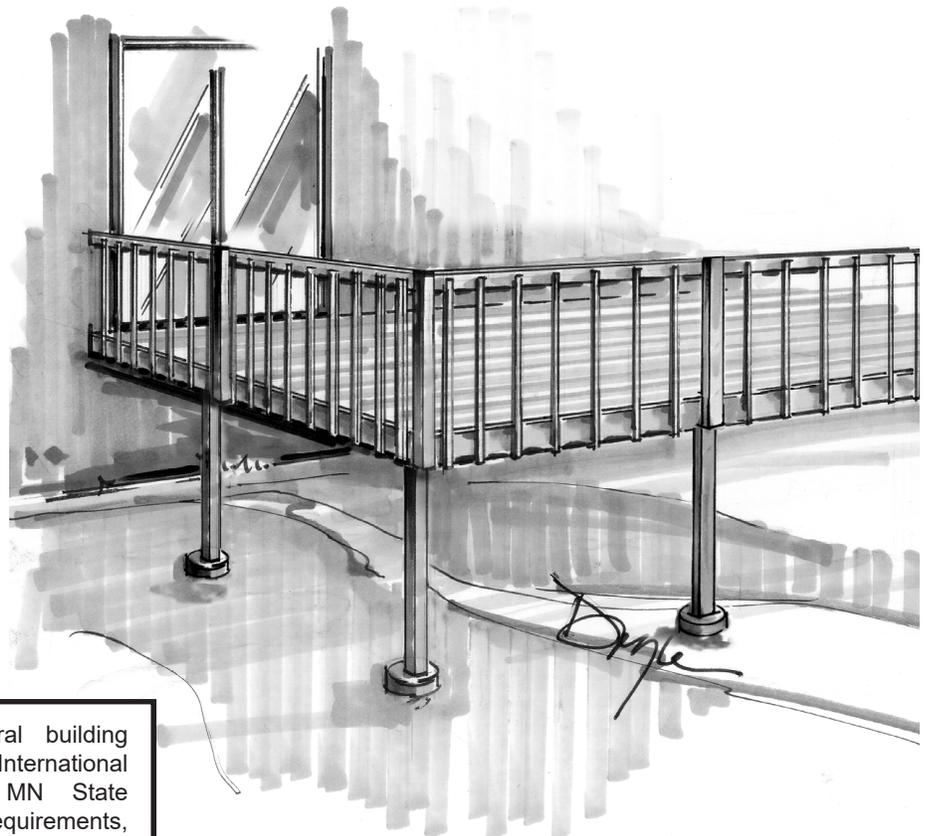
The Township accepts both paper and electronic submittal. When submitting via paper 2 sets of plans are required. Draw to scale and complete the following (hint: use graph paper with $\frac{1}{4}$ " squares. Example: $\frac{1}{4}$ " = 1').

1. **Complete this Building Guide** by filling in the blanks on page 3, and indicating which construction details will be used.
2. **Provide Plot Plan (site plan)** showing dimensions of your project or addition and its relationship to existing buildings or structures on the property and the distance to existing property lines drawn to scale. See page 2.
3. **Fill out a building permit application.**

Your application will be reviewed for code compliance and setback requirements. Permit fees will be calculated and you will be notified when the permit is ready to be picked-up.

Before digging, call **Gopher State One Call** at (651) 454-0002 to locate utilities 48 hours in advance.

A building permit is required to construct a deck if attached to a structure or more than 30" above grade.

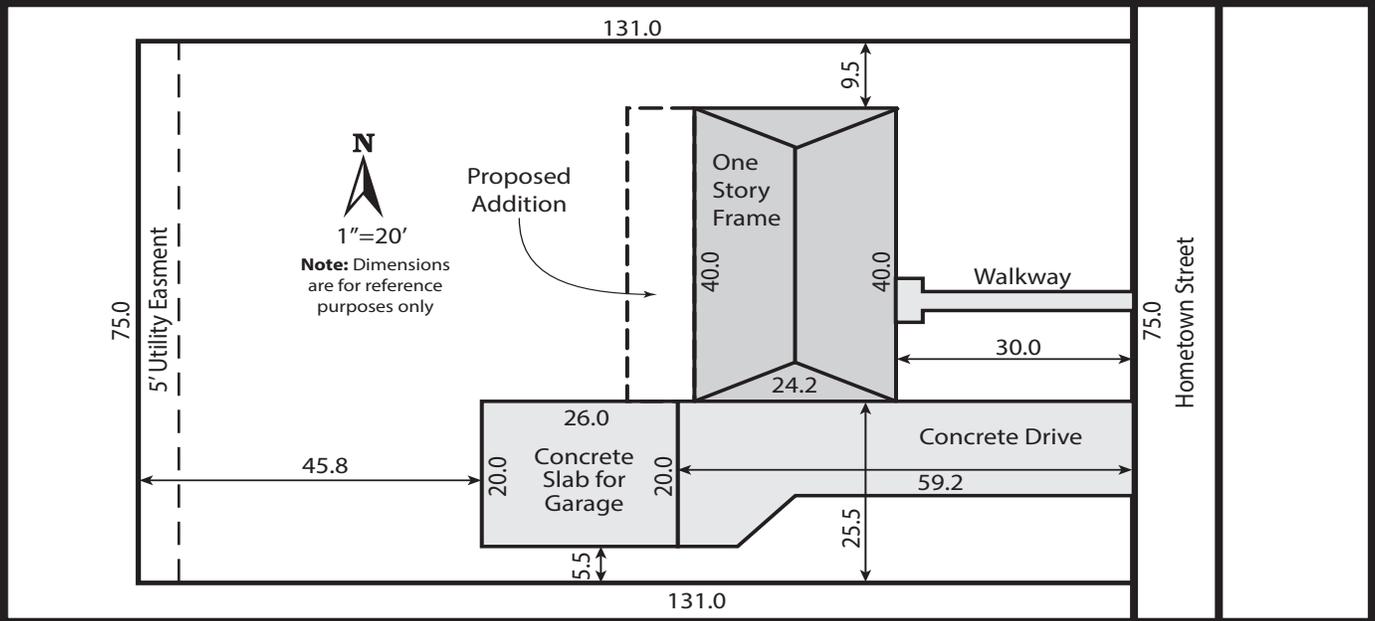


This information only outlines general building code requirements from the 2012 International Residential Code and the 2015 MN State Building Code. For specific code requirements, please contact White Bear Township's Building Department at (651)747-2750.

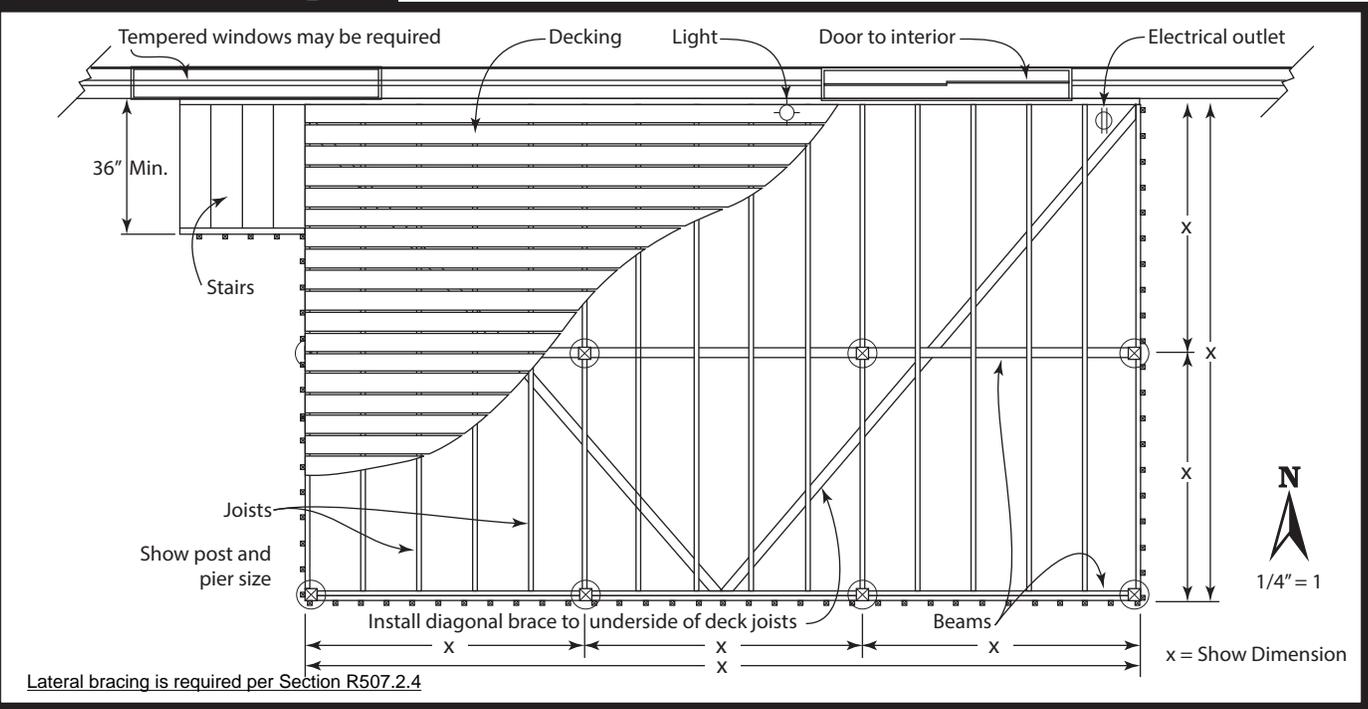
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Note: A plot plan (plan view) showing the dimensions of your project or additions and its relationships to existing buildings or structures on the property must be included. In addition to project dimensions, your plot plan must also show other details such as post locations and spacing, joist and beam spans, and any other pertinent information not shown on the section drawing.

Site Plan Example



Plan View Example



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Directions

1. Fill in the blanks. Please print legibly.
2. Indicate in the check box which detail from page 4 will be used.

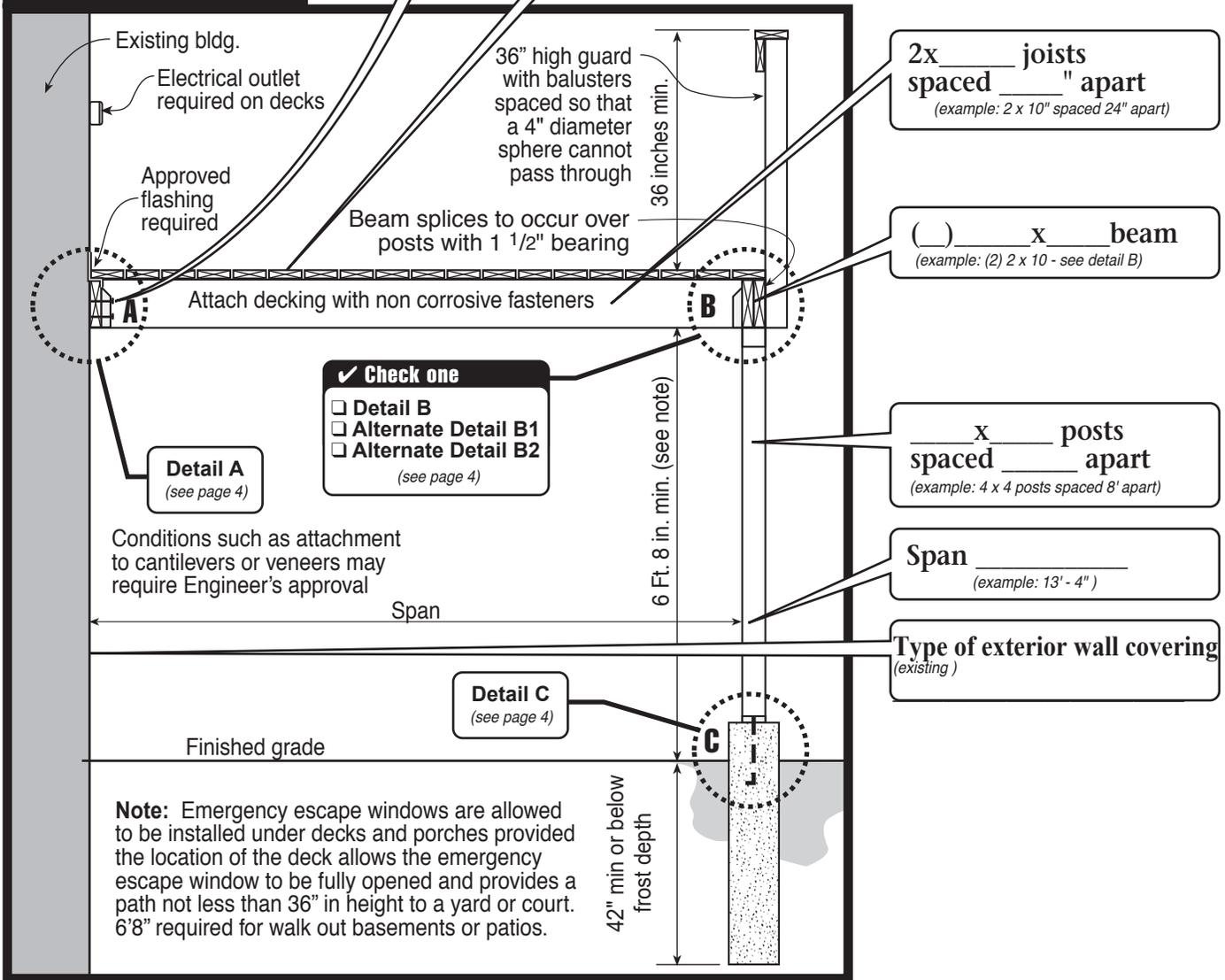
Address: _____

Size and Spacing of Lags

(example: Two 1/2"x 4 1/2" lags @ 16" O.C.)

Type of decking _____ x _____ - _____
(example: 1 x 4 or 2 x 6 - Trex)

Deck Section



Check one

Detail B

Alternate Detail B1

Alternate Detail B2

(see page 4)

Detail A
(see page 4)

Detail C
(see page 4)

Conditions such as attachment to cantilevers or veneers may require Engineer's approval

Note: Emergency escape windows are allowed to be installed under decks and porches provided the location of the deck allows the emergency escape window to be fully opened and provides a path not less than 36" in height to a yard or court. 6'8" required for walk out basements or patios.

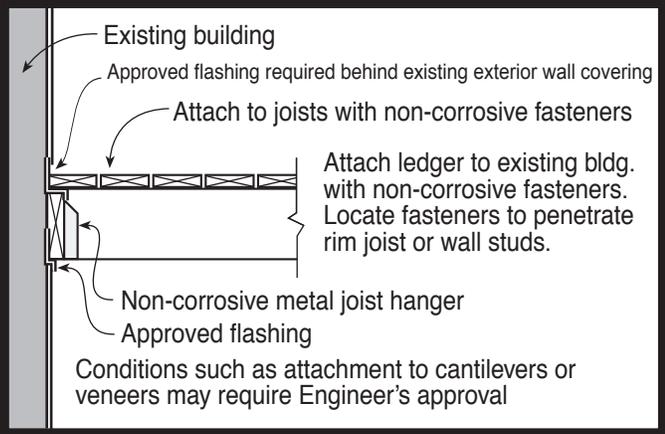
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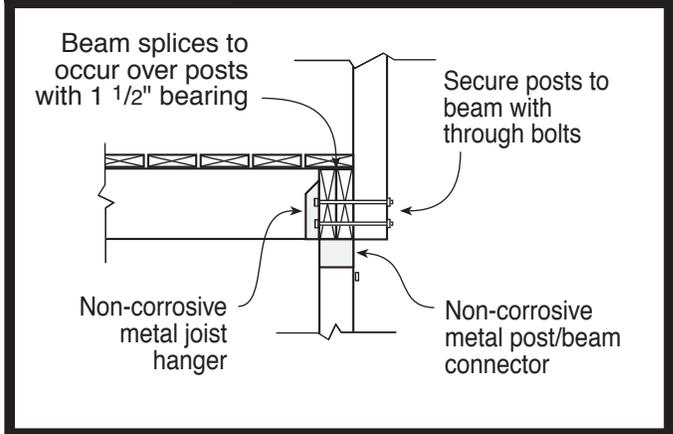
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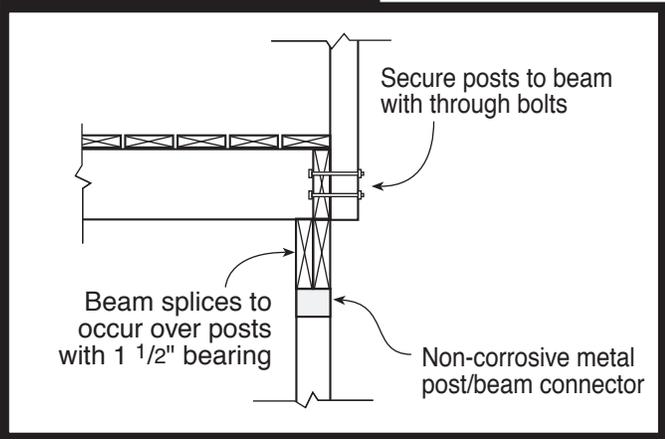
Detail A



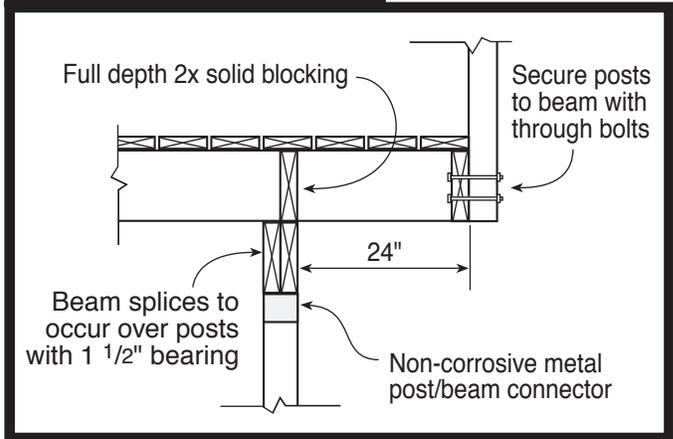
Detail B



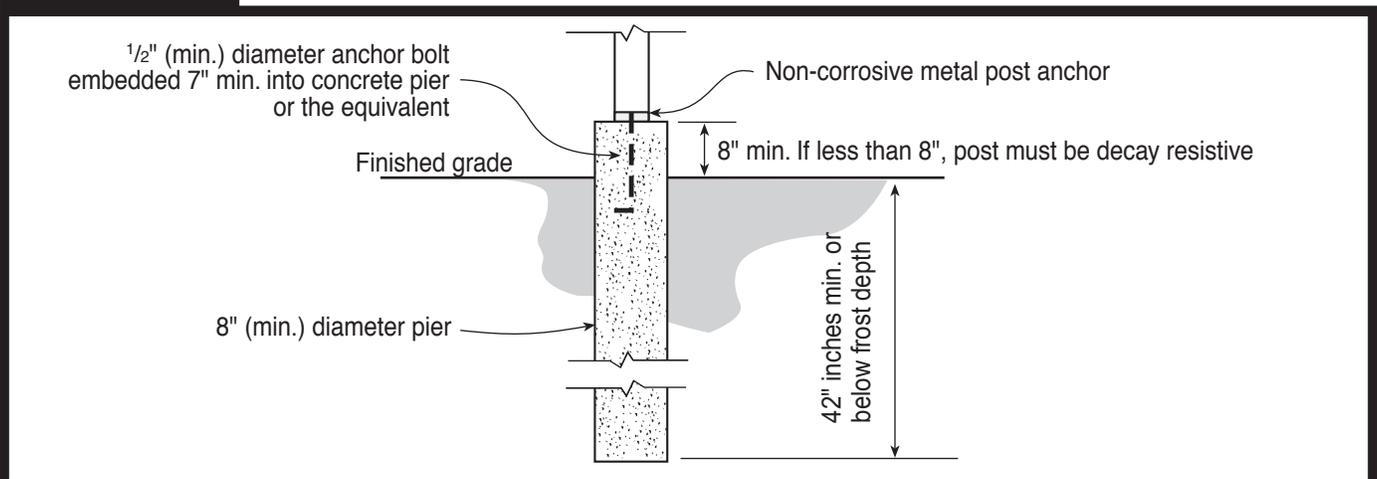
Alternate Detail B1



Alternate Detail B2



Detail C



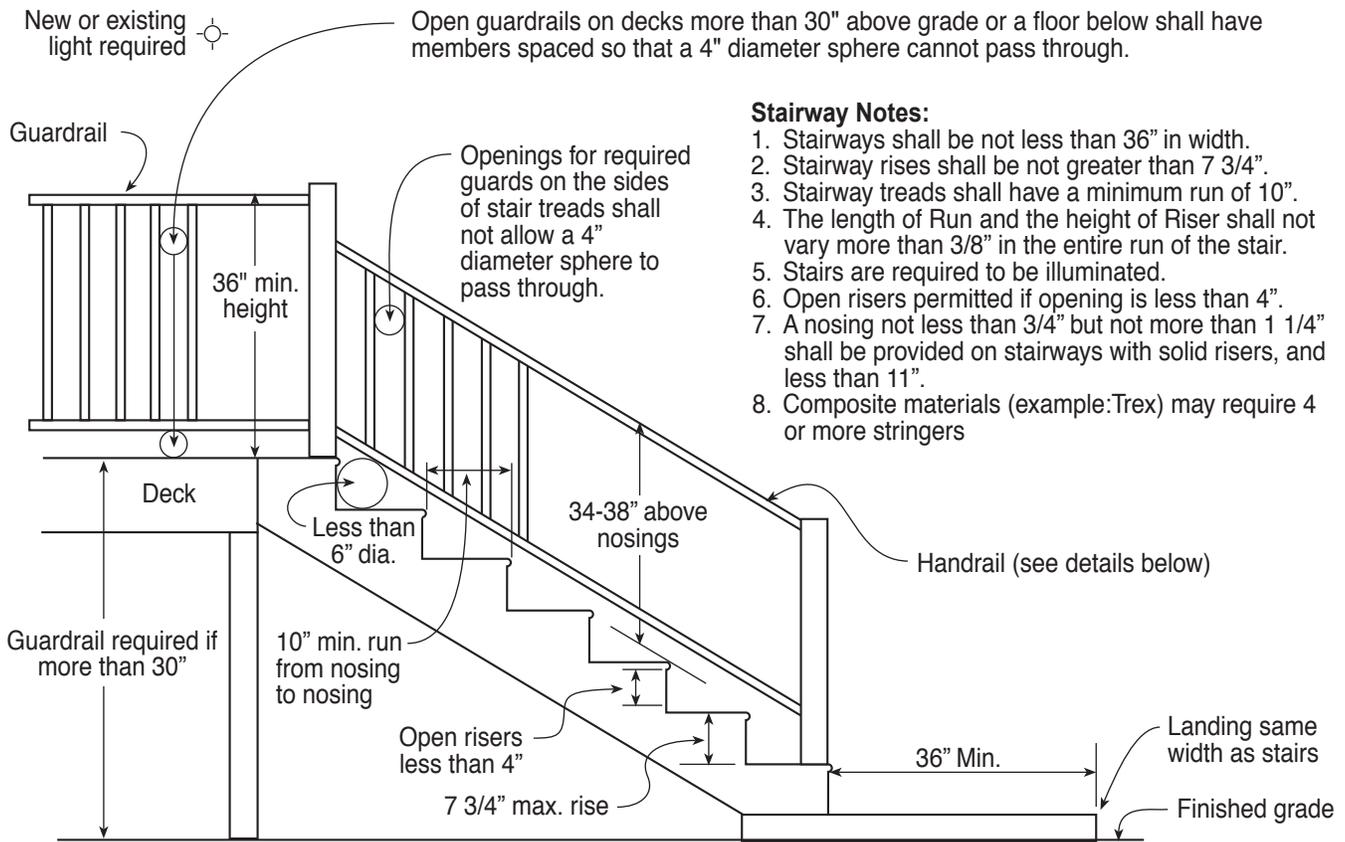
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Stair & Handrail Specifications



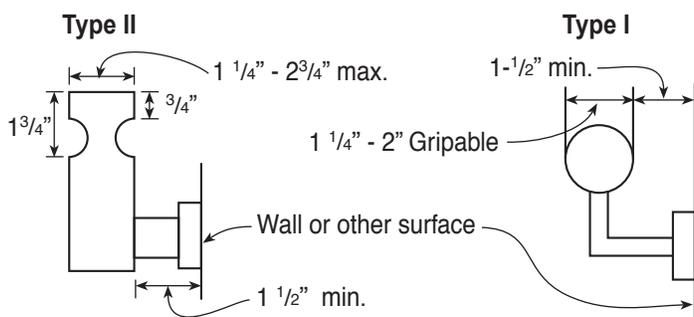
Stairway Notes:

1. Stairways shall be not less than 36" in width.
2. Stairway rises shall be not greater than 7 3/4".
3. Stairway treads shall have a minimum run of 10".
4. The length of Run and the height of Riser shall not vary more than 3/8" in the entire run of the stair.
5. Stairs are required to be illuminated.
6. Open risers permitted if opening is less than 4".
7. A nosing not less than 3/4" but not more than 1 1/4" shall be provided on stairways with solid risers, and less than 11".
8. Composite materials (example:Trex) may require 4 or more stringers

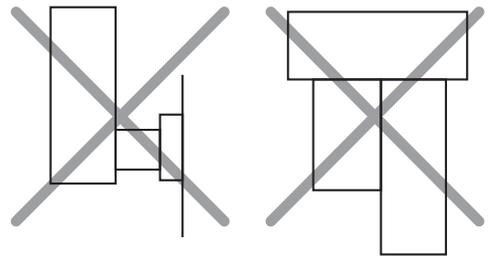
Handrail Notes:

1. Handrails shall be continuous on at least one side of stairs with 4 or more risers.
2. Top of the handrails shall be placed not less than 34 inches nor more than 38 inches above stair nosings.
3. The handgrip portion of handrails shall be not less than 1-1/4 inches nor more than 2 1/4 inches in cross section for non circular handrails.
4. Handrails shall be placed not less than 1-1/2 inches from any wall or other surface.
5. Handrails to be returned to wall, post or safety terminal (per 311.7.8.2 IRC)

Acceptable Handrail Details



Unacceptable Handrails



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