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STAIR CONSTRUCTION REQUIREMENTS FOR RESIDENTIAL DECKS

2007 California Building Code sections 1009.3 and 1013.2

1009.3 Stair treads and risers.

Stair riser heights shall be 7 inches (178 mm) maximum and 4 inches (102 mm) minimum. Stair tread depths shall be 11 inches (279 mm) minimum. The riser height shall be measured vertically between the leading edges of adjacent treads.

Exceptions:

4. In Group R-3 occupancies; within dwelling units in Group R-2 occupancies; and in Group U occupancies that are accessory to a Group R-3 occupancy or accessory to individual dwelling units in Group R-2 occupancies; the maximum riser height shall be 7.75 inches; the minimum tread depth shall be 10 inches. A nosing not less than 0.75 inch but not more than 1.25 inches shall be provided on stairways with solid risers where the tread depth is less than 11 inches.

1013.2 Height. Guards shall form a protective barrier not less than 42 inches high, measured vertically above the leading edge of the tread, adjacent walking surface or adjacent seatboard.

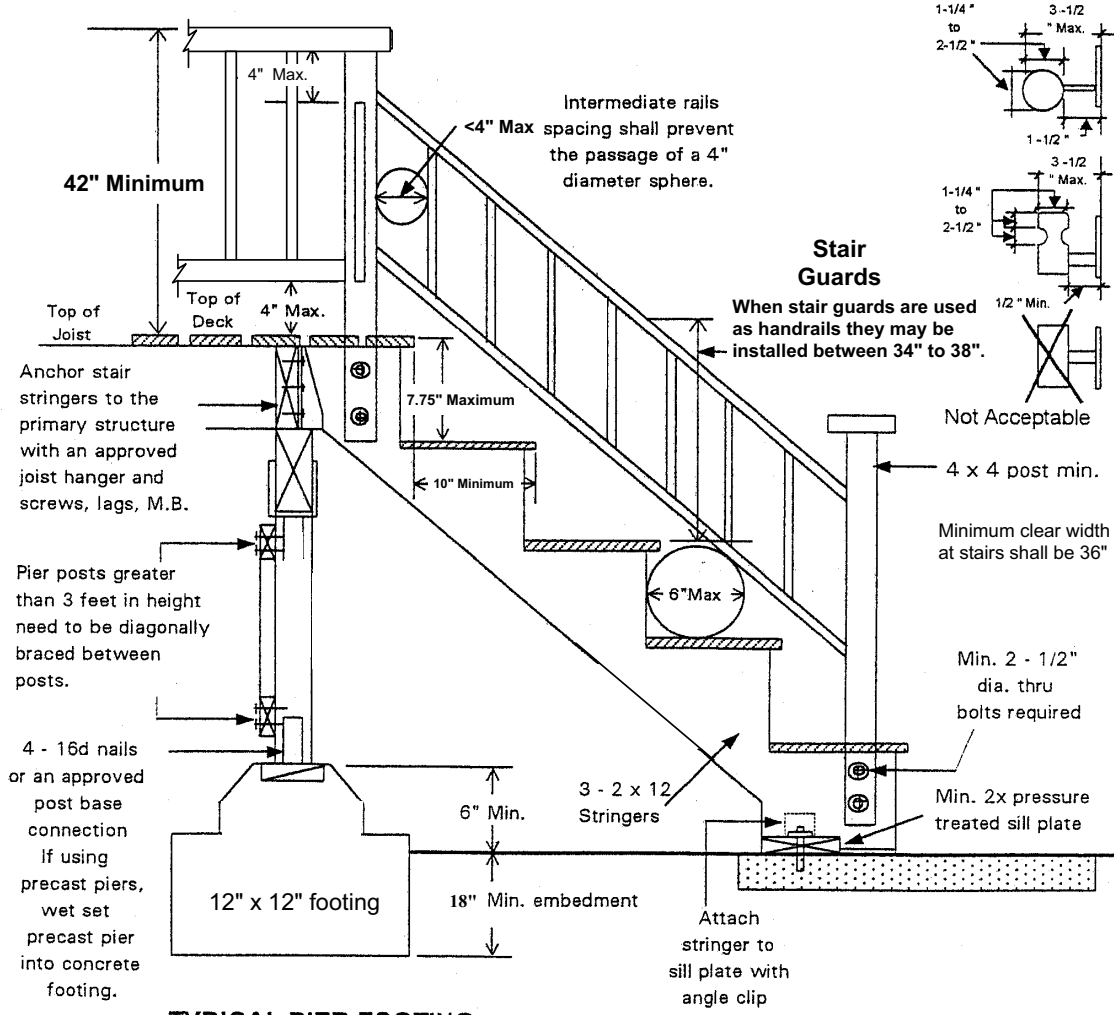
Exceptions:

1. For occupancies in Group R-3, and within individual dwelling units in occupancies in Group R-2, guards whose top rail also serves as a handrail shall have a height not less than 34 inches (864 mm) and not more than 38 inches (965 mm) measured vertically from the leading edge of the stair tread nosing.

1013.3 Opening limitations. Open guards shall have balusters or ornamental patterns such that a 4-inch-diameter sphere cannot pass through any opening up to a height of 34 inches. From a height of 34 inches to 42 inches above the adjacent walking surfaces, a sphere 8 inches in diameter shall not pass.

Exceptions:

5. Within individual dwelling units and sleeping units in Group R-2 and R-3 occupancies, openings for required guards on the sides of stair treads shall not allow a sphere of 4.375 inches to pass through.



TYPICAL PIER FOOTING

2007 CBC section 2304.9.5 - Fasteners in preservative-treated and fire-retardant-treated wood. Fasteners for preservative-treated and fire-retardant-treated wood shall be of hot dipped zinc-coated galvanized steel, stainless steel, silicon bronze or copper. The coating weights for zinc-coated fasteners shall be in accordance with ASTM A 153.

Fastenings for wood foundations shall be as required in AF&PA Technical Report No. 7.

Exception: Fasteners other than nails, timber rivets, wood screws and lag screws shall be permitted to be of mechanically deposited zinc coated steel with coating weights in accordance with ASTM B695, Class 55 minimum.