Stairways & Handrails
The handgrip portion of the handrail shall not be less than 1 1/2 inches nor more than 2 inches in cross-sectional dimension or the shape shall provide an equivalent gripping surface. The handgrip portion shall have a smooth surface with no sharp corners.

Note: The stair shown in this drawing with a handrail on one side is for illustration purposes only. Stairways shall have either a barrier on one side or handrails on both sides.

The openings between intermediate rails in open-type railings shall be not more than 4 inches.

Intermediate rails

Every stairway with more than 3 risers or steps shall be equipped with handrails and intermediate rails. Handrails shall not be less than 34 inches nor more than 38 inches in height as measured vertically from the nosing of the stair tread.

Riser

Nosing

Riser heights and tread runs shall not vary more than 3/8 of an inch between any step of the stairway.

9 inch minimum tread run.

8 inch maximum

9 inch minimum tread run.

8 inch maximum riser height.

4 inch minimum riser height.

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Landings and porches more than 30 inches above grade shall have railings not less than 42 inches in height above the landing or porch surface. The openings between intermediate rails of the guardrail shall not be more than 4 inches.

When stairways constructed of wood are placed directly on concrete or are within 6 inches of earth, the wood shall be pressure treated or of natural resistance to decay.

If an exit door swings outward in the direction of travel, a landing must be provided. The landing surface may not be more than 1 inch below the bottom opening of the doorway. The landing width and length must not be less than the width of the door.

If an exit door swings inward, or is a sliding glass door and the stairway is perpendicular to the unit, a landing is not required. The top step, porch, or landing shall not be more than 7 1/2 inches below the bottom of the door.

Note: The illustrations and descriptions shown on this drawing are spliced for clarity. Refer to the California Code of Regulations, Title 25, Chapter 2, for specific codes governing mobilehome/manufactured home stairway construction.

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