

**STANDARDS PRESENTATION  
TO  
CALIFORNIA OCCUPATIONAL SAFETY AND HEALTH STANDARDS BOARD**

PROPOSED STATE STANDARD,  
TITLE 8, CHAPTER 4

Amend Section 3214 to read as follows:

§3214. Stair Railings and Handrails.

(a) Stairways shall have handrails or stair railings on each side, and every stairway required to be more than 88 inches in width shall be provided with not less than one intermediate stair railing for each 88 inches of required width. Intermediate stair railings shall be spaced approximately equally within the entire width of the stairway. (~~Title 24, Part 2, Section 1006.9.~~)

NOTE: Intermediate stair railings may be of single rail construction.

EXCEPTIONS:

(1) Stairways less than 44 inches in width may have one handrail or stair railing except that such stairways open on one or both sides shall have stair railings provided on the open side or sides. (~~Title 24, Part 2, Section 1006.9, Exception 1.~~)

(2) Stairways having less than four risers need not have handrails or stair railings. (~~Title 24, Part 2, Section 1006.9, Exception 3.~~)

(3) Stairways giving access to portable work stands less than 30 inches high.

(4) Stairs that follow the contour of tanks or other cylindrical or spherical structures where the construction requires the inside clearance between the inside stair stringer and wall or tank side to be 8 inches or less, shall not be considered an "open side."

(5) Guardrails may be erected provided a handrail is attached.

(b) A stair railing shall be of construction similar to a guardrail (See Section 3209) but the vertical height shall be in compliance with Section 3214(c). Stair railings on open sides that are 30 inches or more above the surface below shall be equipped with midrails approximately one half way between the steps and the top rail. (~~Title 24, Part 2, Sections 509.2, Exception 3 and 1006.10.~~)

Note: Local building standards may require 9 4-inch spacing of intermediate vertical members midrails.

(c) The top of stair railings, handrails and handrail extensions installed on or after April 3, 1997, shall be at a vertical height between 34 and 38 inches above the nosing of treads and landings. For stairs installed before April 3, 1997, this height shall be between 30 and 38 inches. shall be

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Attachment No. 1

Page 2 of 4

PROPOSED STATE STANDARD,  
TITLE 8, CHAPTER 4

Amend Section 3214 to read as follows (continued):

~~placed not less than 34 inches or more than 38 inches above the nosing of treads and landings.~~  
Stair railings and handrails shall be continuous the full length of the stairs and, except for private stairways, at least one handrail or stair railing shall extend in the direction of the stair run not less than 12 inches beyond the top riser nor less than 12 inches beyond the bottom riser. Ends shall be returned or shall terminate in newel posts or safety terminals, or otherwise arranged so as not to constitute a projection hazard. ~~(Title 24, Part 2, Section 1006.9.)~~

EXCEPTION: Handrails and stair railings on flights of stairs serving basements or cellars that are covered by a trap door, removable floor or grating when not in use, shall stop at the floor level or entrance level so as not to interfere with the cover in the closed position. ~~(Title 24, Part 2, Section 1006.9.2.7a.)~~

(d) A handrail shall consist of a lengthwise member mounted directly on a wall or partition by means of brackets attached to the lower side of the handrail so as to offer no obstruction to a smooth surface along the top and both sides of the handrail. The handrail shall be designed to provide a grasping surface to avoid the person using it from falling. The spacing of brackets shall not exceed 8 feet.

~~(Title 24, Part 2, Section 1006.9.2.7.1a.)~~

(e) Handrails projecting from a wall shall have a space of not less than 1 1/2 inches between the wall and the handrail. ~~(Title 24, Part 2, Section 1006.9.)~~

(f) The mounting of handrails shall be such that the completed structure is capable of withstanding a load of at least 200 pounds applied in any direction at any point on the rail.

~~(Title 24, Part 2, Section 1006.9.2.7.1a.)~~

NOTE: Authority cited: Section 142.3, Labor Code. Reference: Section 142.3, Labor Code; and Section 18943(b), Health and Safety Code.

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TITLE 8, CHAPTER 4

Amend Figure E-1 to Section 3231 to read as follows:

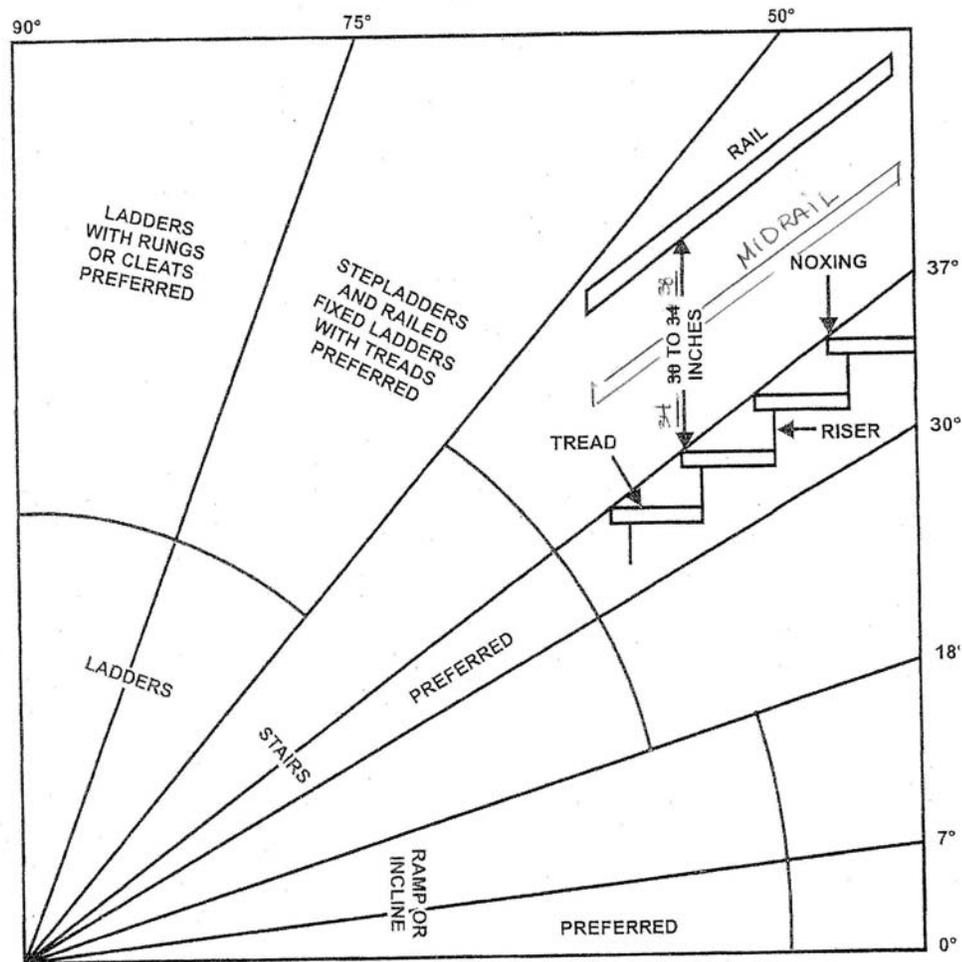


Figure E-1 (for stairs installed on or after April 3, 1997)

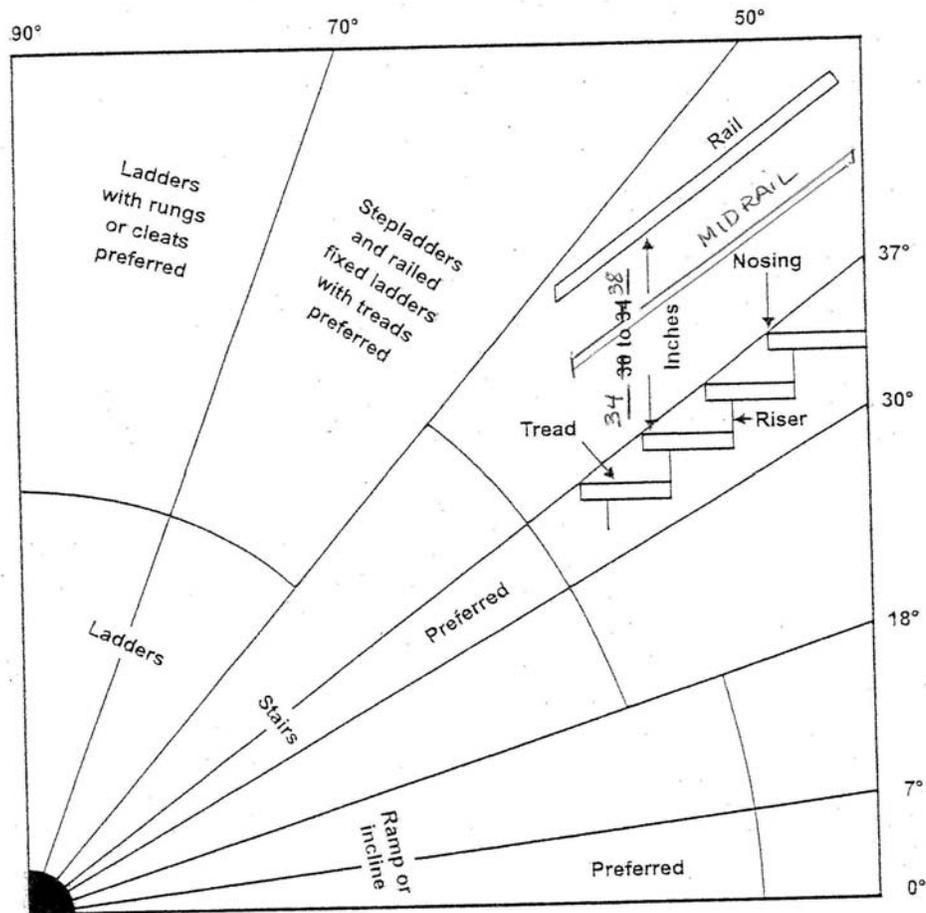
NOTE: Authority cited: Section 142.3, Labor Code. Reference: Section 142.3, Labor Code.

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PROPOSED STATE STANDARD,  
TITLE 8, CHAPTER 4

Amend Construction Safety Orders, Appendix B, Plate B-17 to read as follows:

**PLATE B-17  
CRITERIA FOR STAIRS, LADDERS AND RAMPS OR INCLINES**



“Don’t be the Fall Guy” (for stairs installed on or after April 3, 1997)

NOTE: Authority cited: Section 142.3, Labor Code. Reference: Section 142.3, Labor Code.