



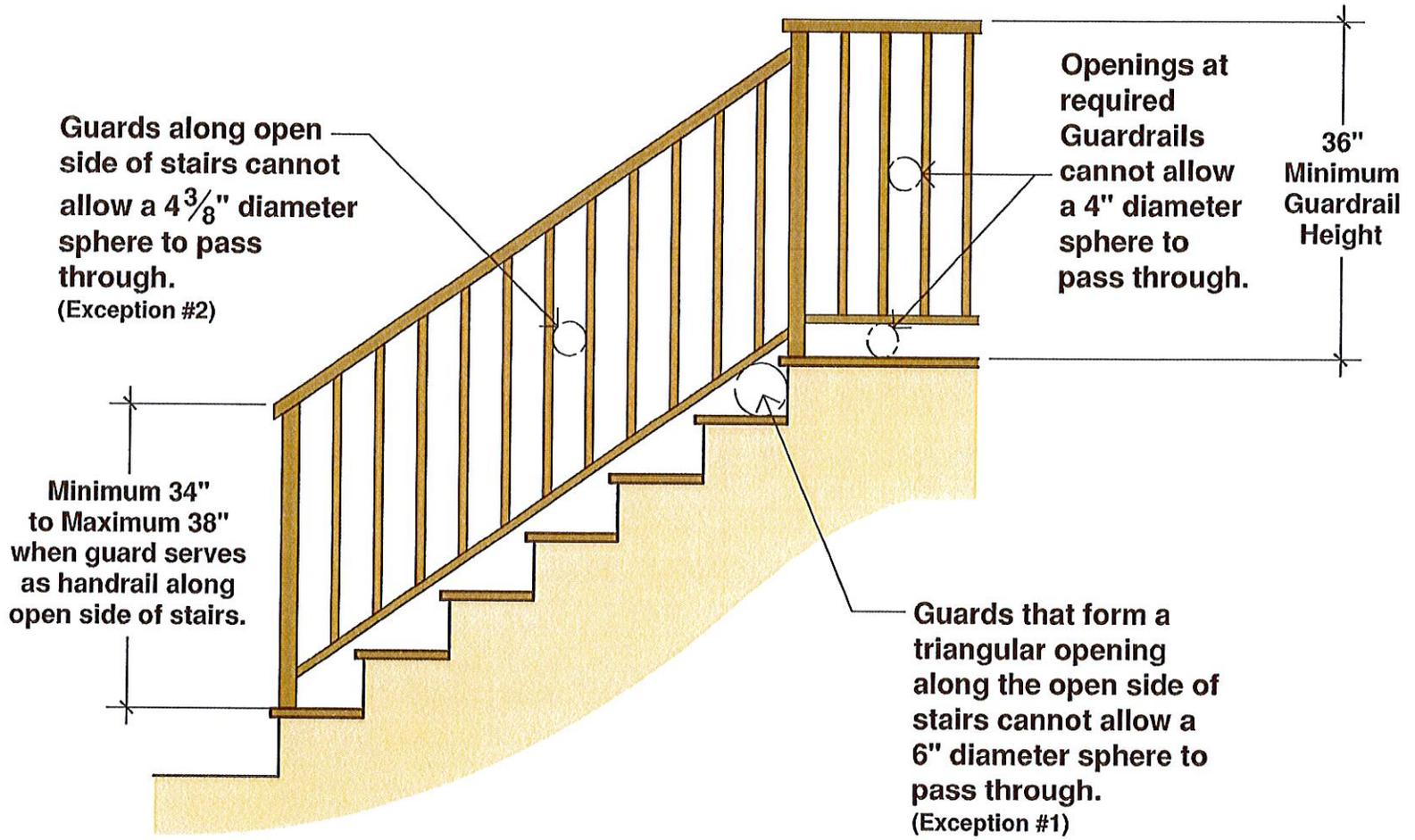
# Hand Railings and Guard Railings

# Guard Railings

- Minimum height from floor surface is 36 inches for residential and 42 inches for commercial.
- Maximum spacings at horizontal floor and between balusters is 4 inches.
- Required when walkable surface is above 30 inches from ground level.
- Can be horizontal landing or angled stairway type.
- Prevents falling off higher surfaces to next lower level.

# Hand Railings

- Minimum height from floor surface is 34 inches.
- Maximum height from floor surface is 38 inches.
- Minimum distance from wall surface is 1 ½ inches.
- Required when walkable surface is 4 stairway risers or more (30 inches from ground level).
  - Can be horizontal landing or angled stairway type.
  - Prevents falling onto or down landing and stairway surfaces.
- Provide grip, guide, and supportive construction.



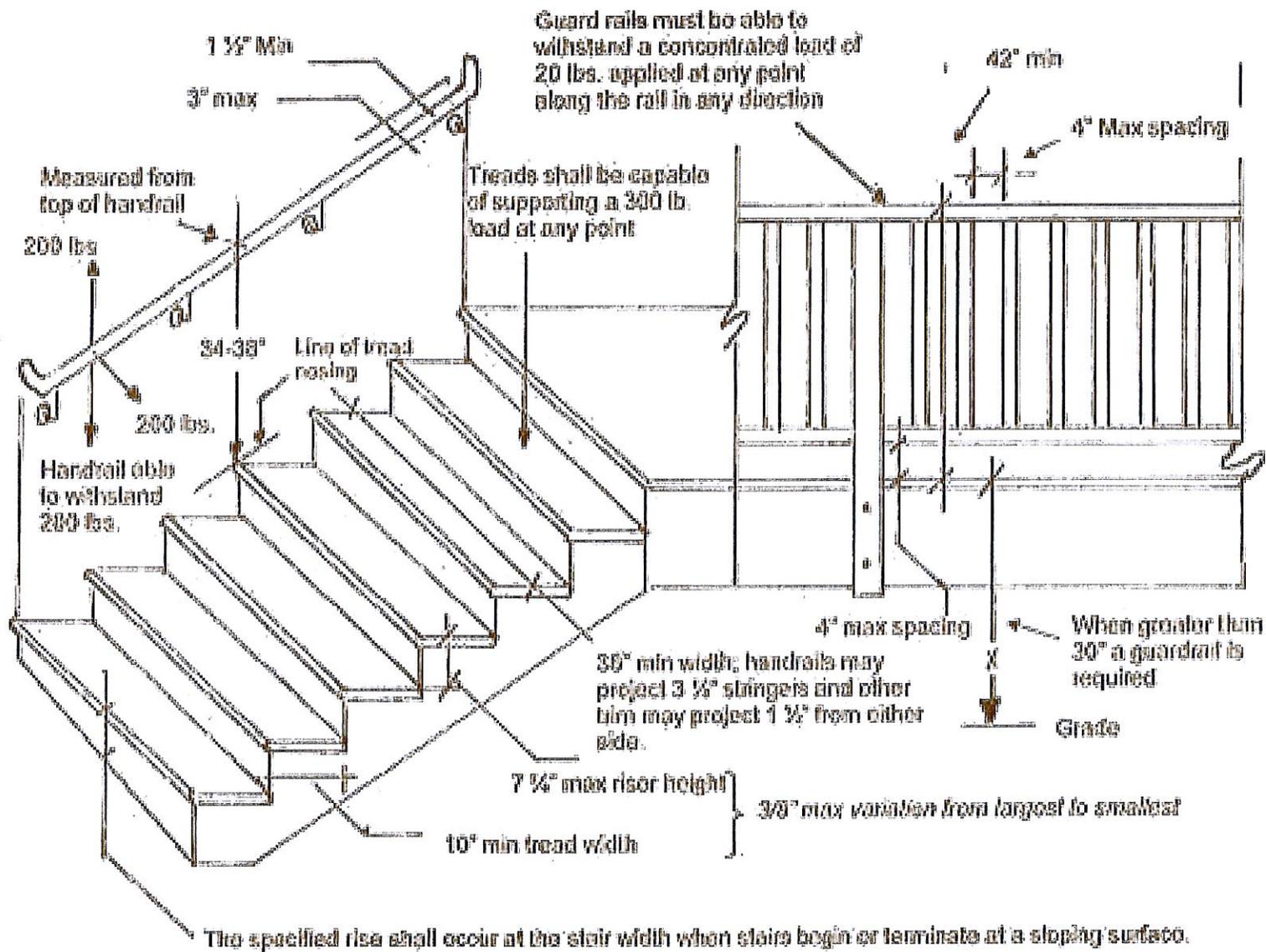
Guards along open side of stairs cannot allow a  $4\frac{3}{8}$ " diameter sphere to pass through.  
(Exception #2)

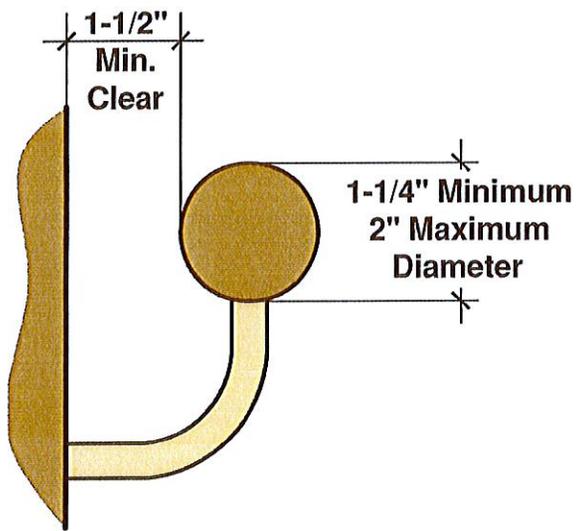
Minimum 34" to Maximum 38" when guard serves as handrail along open side of stairs.

Openings at required Guardrails cannot allow a 4" diameter sphere to pass through.

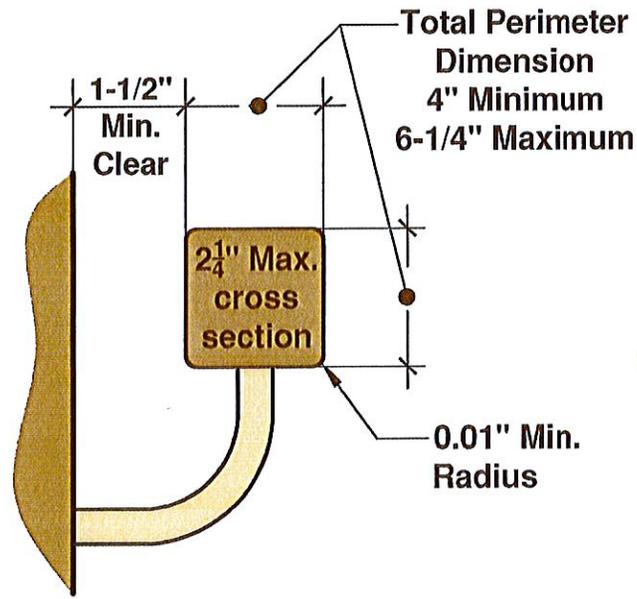
36" Minimum Guardrail Height

Guards that form a triangular opening along the open side of stairs cannot allow a 6" diameter sphere to pass through.  
(Exception #1)

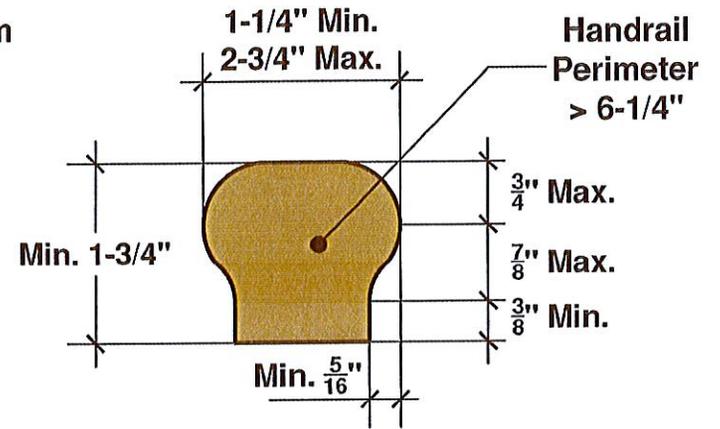




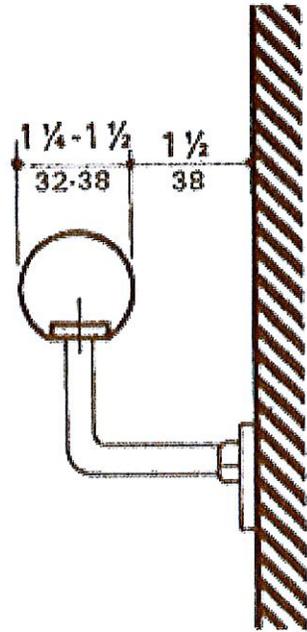
Circular Handrail  
Type I



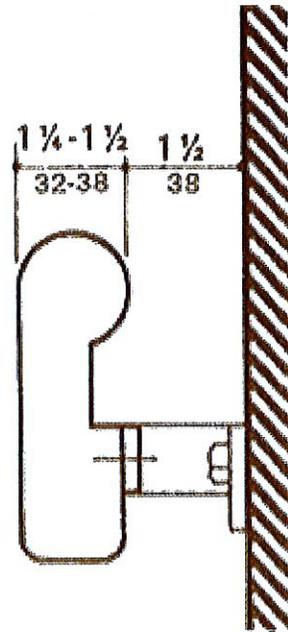
Non-Circular Handrail  
Type I



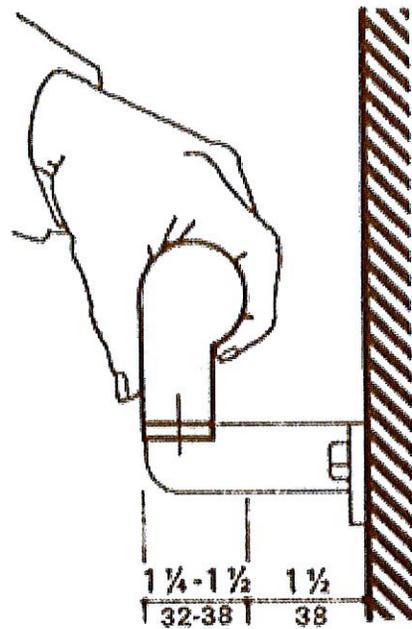
(Recessed) Handrail  
Type II



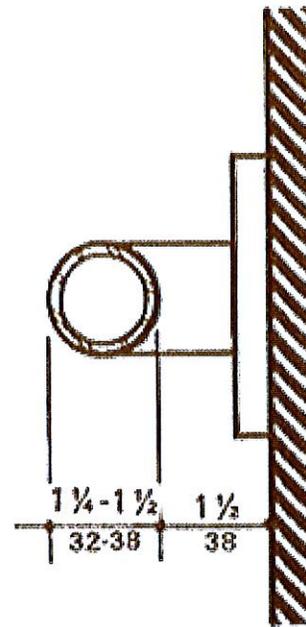
(a) Handrail



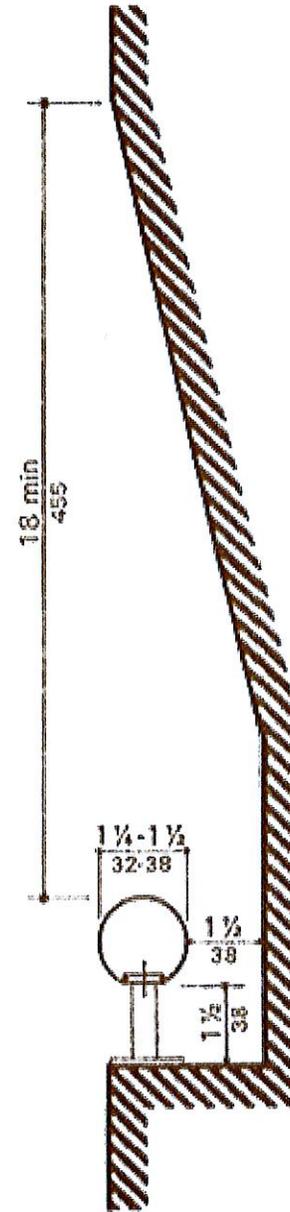
(b) Handrail



(c) Handrail



(e) Grab Bar



(d) Handrail



