



Required Landings For Dwellings

The Building Standards Department issues Builder Tips as part of our customer service program. They are designed to provide an improved understanding of the Building Code and to reduce the costs associated with correcting infractions. Please contact your area building inspector for further information or call the Building Standards Department at 905.475.4848 extension 2189

Sentence 9.8.6.2. Required Landings

(1) Except as provided in Sentences (2) to (4) and sentence 9.9.6.6.(2), a landing shall be provided

(a) at the top and bottom of each flight of interior and exterior stairs, including stairs in garages,

(b) at the top and bottom of every ramp with a slope greater than 1 in 50, and

(c) Where a doorway opens onto a stair or ramp.

(2) Where a door at the top of a stair in a dwelling unit swings away from the stair, no landing is required between the doorway and the stair. (See Note A-9.8.6.2.(2))

(3) A landing may be omitted at the top of an exterior flight serving a secondary entrance to a single dwelling unit or a house with a secondary suite, provided

(a) the stair does not contain more than 3 risers,

(b) the principal door is a sliding door, if any, swings over the stair, and (c) only a storm or screen door is provided, it may swing over the stair if it is equipped with hardware to hold it open.

(3.1) Sentence (3) does not apply to an exterior stair serving a secondary entrance to a house with a secondary suite that is also a main entrance to a dwelling unit in the house.

(4) A landing may be omitted at the bottom of an exterior stair or ramp provided there is no obstruction, such as a gate or door, within the lesser of the width of the stair or ramp, or

(a) 900 mm for stairs or ramps serving a single dwelling unit, and

(b) 1100 mm for stairs or ramps not serving a single dwelling unit.



COMMENTARY

1. The requirements of the Building Code for a landing at the top of each flight of interior and exterior stairs are waived for a stair within an attached garage serving a dwelling unit, provided the door at the top of the stair swings away from the stair and the stair has a maximum of 3 risers. Refer to Plan #1.
2. A landing is not required at the top of the exterior secondary stair serving a dwelling unit if the stair does not contain more than three risers and the door at the top of the stair swings away from the stair. If a storm door or screen is provided the door is equipped with the hardware to hold it open. Refer to Plan #2.
3. An exterior stair serving a dwelling unit may have the landing omitted at the bottom of the stair provided there are no obstructions at the bottom of the stair within 900 mm (2'-11") from the first riser. Refer to Plan #3.

