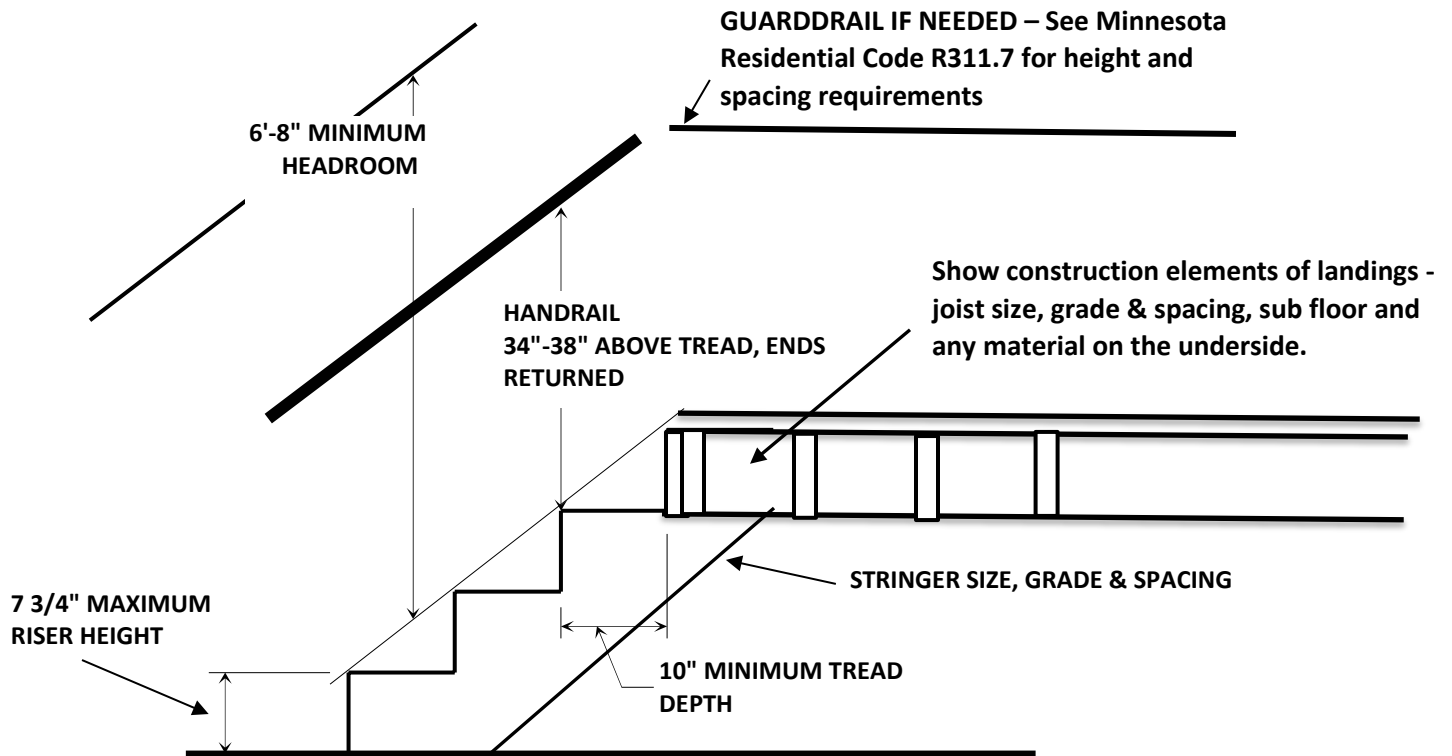


Residential Stairs – Requirements & Items to Show on Plans

Dimensional requirements for stairs in one- and two-family dwellings and townhomes regulated by the MN Residential Code.



Landings for stairways. There shall be a floor or landing at the top and bottom of each stairway, except at the top of an interior flight of stairs, provided a door does not swing over the stairs.

Requirements for winders, spiral stairs and circular stairways are addressed separately in the MN Residential Code.

Stairway illumination. All interior and exterior stairways shall be provided with a means to illuminate the stairs, including the landings and treads. Interior stairways shall be provided with an artificial light source located in the immediate vicinity of each landing of the stairway. Exterior stairways shall be provided with an artificial light source located in the immediate vicinity of the top landing of the stairway. Exterior stairways providing access to a basement from the outside grade level shall be provided with an artificial light source located in the immediate vicinity of the bottom landing of the stairway. An artificial light source is not required at the top and bottom landing, provided an artificial light source is located directly over each stairway section. The control for activation of the required interior stairway lighting shall be accessible at the top and bottom of each stair without traversing any step of the stair. The illumination of exterior stairs shall be controlled from inside the dwelling unit.

Under stair protection. Enclosed accessible space under stairs shall have walls, under stair surfaces, and soffits protected on the enclosed side with 1/2" gypsum board.