

## STANDARDS FOR FACILITY ACCESSIBILITY

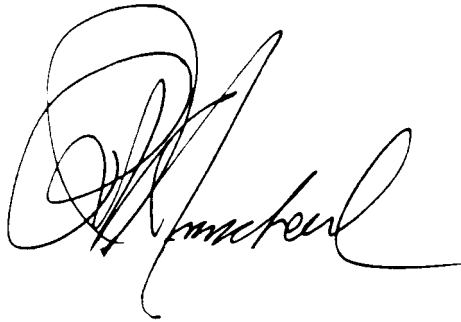
Handbook RE-4

March 2005

- A. Introduction.** It is the policy of the Postal Service™ to value and manage the diversity of our employees and customers, including those with disabilities. Eliminating architectural barriers in Postal Service facilities promotes the strategic objectives of the *Transformation Plan* by contributing to the development and effectiveness of Postal Service employees, expanding our customer base, and enhancing the accessibility of Postal Services.
- B. Explanation.** This is a complete revision of Handbook RE-4, *Standards for Facility Accessibility* by the Physically Handicapped, dated April 19, 1985. The United States Access Board, of which the Postal Service is a federal member, undertook an extensive review of existing accessibility guidelines under the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), the Architectural Barriers Act (ABA), and various building codes and standards to identify best practices and consistent requirements. The Accessibility Guidelines developed as a result of this effort were issued by the Access Board on July 23, 2004. The technical standards and scoping requirements that are applicable under ABA have been adopted by the Postal Service and are incorporated in this handbook.
- C. Distribution.**
- 1. Initial.** Copies of this handbook are being mailed directly to all managers, Facilities Service Offices.
  - 2. Online.** Handbook RE-4 is available on the Postal Service Intranet on the *PolicyNet* Web site at <http://blue.usps.gov/cpim>, click on *HBKs*.
  - 3. Additional Copies.** You may order printed copies from the Material Distribution Center (MDC) using the Touch Tone Order Entry (TTOE) system. Call 800-332-0317, Option 2.
- Note:** You must be registered to use TTOE: to register, call 800-332-0317, option 1, extension 2925, and follow the prompts to leave a message. Wait 48 hours after registering before you place your first order.
- D. Comments and Questions.** Postal Service officers and employees should direct any questions, concerns, or suggestions regarding this handbook to:
- FACILITIES  
US POSTAL SERVICE HEADQUARTERS  
4301 WILSON BLVD STE 300  
ARLINGTON VA 22203-1861
- E. Rescissions.** This revision rescinds Handbook RE-4 dated April 19, 1985.
- F. Waivers and Modifications.** The Postal Service has established procedures governing the request, review, and disposition of waivers and modifications of these standards on a case-by-case basis. Guidance concerning waivers and modifications is available from Facilities Headquarters, Design and Construction Programs, at the address listed above.

**G. Effective Date.**

- 1. Design and Construction.** These standards are mandatory for all Postal Service facility designs that have not reached 30% completion by October 1, 2005, and for all design/build contracts for which the solicitation was issued after October 1, 2005.
- 2. Leased Facilities.** The standards for new construction, additions, and alterations are mandatory for all leased Postal Service facilities and alternate quarters with designs that have not reached 30% completion by October 1, 2005. The standards for existing leased facilities are mandatory for all such facilities with new leases signed on or after October 1, 2005. The unilateral exercise of a previously negotiated lease option is not considered a new lease for purposes of these standards.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Rudy Umscheid', with a large, stylized initial 'R'.

*Rudy Umscheid*

## Preface

### Standards for Facility Accessibility

This document contains text, advisory information and figures contained in the Final Revised Americans with Disabilities Act/Architectural Barriers Act (ADA/ABA) Accessibility Guidelines issued by the United States Access Board on July 23, 2004 (36 CFR Parts 1190 & 1191). The advisories provide supplemental information that may be helpful, but they should not be construed as mandatory requirements. In April, 2005, the Postal Service™ will adopt the Accessibility Guidelines published by the Access Board with the exception of the advisory material.

The Accessibility Guidelines published by the Access Board include scoping chapters related to enforcement of the ADA. As a matter of law, the Postal Service is subject to the ABA, rather than the ADA. Accordingly, the ADA scoping chapters are not included in this handbook. In addition, some sections in the guidelines published by the Access Board pertain to recreational and other facilities that normally are not included in Postal Service facilities. Accordingly, some material in the original guidelines has been deleted from this handbook. If the standards for such facilities are relevant for a particular Postal Service facility, reference should be made to the complete guidelines published by the Access Board.

1. **Scope.** These are the Postal Service federal standards for the design, construction, and alteration of facilities and accessibility standards applicable to leased facilities.
2. **Effect of Local Codes.** State and local building codes and regulations do not apply as a matter of law to work inside the property lines of Postal Service properties. However, Postal Service policy generally requires that contractors comply with all state and local building codes relating to access in addition to applicable federal access standards. In the event of an irreconcilable conflict between local standards and the requirements in this handbook, a determining decision will be made by an authorized representative of the Postal Service.
3. **Certification of Accessibility.** Certification that these standards have been satisfied is required for all construction projects, including new facilities, additions, alterations, and applicable repair projects at Postal Service-owned and -leased facilities.

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<sup>\$</sup> Accessibility Guidelines for Buildings and Facilities were adopted by the United States Access Board and published in the Federal Register on July 23, 2004 at 36 CFR Parts 1190 and 1191. Appendix B to Part 1191 includes scoping chapters related to enforcement of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). As a matter of law, the Postal Service is subject to the Architectural Barriers Act (ABA), rather than the ADA. Accordingly, the scoping chapters in Appendix B to Part 1191 are not included in this handbook. Should they be relevant for a Postal Service building project, the full text of accessibility guidelines issued by the Access Board should be consulted. Chapters 1 and 2 of this handbook contain scoping requirements in Appendix C to 36 CFR Part 1191 that pertain to enforcement of the ABA.

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**2** <sup><</sup>These sections contain scoping requirements for design elements that are rarely included in Postal Service facilities. For this reason, the text for these sections was not included in the handbook. Nevertheless, the Postal Service is subject to the accessibility requirements in these sections if a Postal Service facility or project does include design elements covered by these sections. The full text for all sections in Chapter 2 of the accessibility guidelines is included in Appendix C to 36 CFR Part 1191.

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*\*Chapter 10 of the accessibility guidelines issued by the Access Board refers to various sorts of recreational facilities that are rarely included in Postal Service facilities. For this reason, the figures and text for Chapter 10 were not included in this handbook. Nevertheless, the Postal Service is subject to these requirements if a Postal Service facility or project includes recreational facilities covered by these sections. All text and figures for Chapter 10 are included in Appendix D to 36 CFR Part 1191.*

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# ABA CHAPTER 1: APPLICATION AND ADMINISTRATION

## F101 Purpose

This document contains scoping and technical requirements for *accessibility* to *sites, facilities, buildings, and elements* by individuals with disabilities. The requirements are to be applied during the design, construction, *addition to, alteration, and lease of sites, facilities, buildings, and elements* to the extent required by regulations issued by Federal agencies under the Architectural Barriers Act of 1968 (ABA).

## F102 Dimensions for Adults and Children

The technical requirements are based on adult dimensions and anthropometrics. In addition, this document includes technical requirements based on children's dimensions and anthropometrics for drinking fountains, water closets, toilet compartments, lavatories and sinks, dining surfaces, and work surfaces.

## F103 Modifications and Waivers

The Architectural Barriers Act authorizes the Administrator of the General Services Administration, the Secretary of the Department of Housing and Urban Development, the Secretary of the Department of Defense, and the United States Postal Service to modify or waive the *accessibility* standards for *buildings and facilities* covered by the Architectural Barriers Act on a case-by-case basis, upon application made by the head of the department, agency, or instrumentality of the United States concerned. The General Services Administration, the Department of Housing and Urban Development, the Department of Defense, and the United States Postal Service may grant a modification or waiver only upon a determination that it is clearly necessary. Section 502(b)(1) of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 authorizes the Access Board to ensure that modifications and waivers are based on findings of fact and are not inconsistent with the Architectural Barriers Act.

**Advisory F103 Modifications and Waivers.** The provisions for modifications and waivers differ from the requirement issued under the Americans with Disabilities Act in that "equivalent facilitation" does not apply. There is a formal procedure for Federal agencies to request a waiver or modification of applicable standards under the Architectural Barriers Act.

## F104 Conventions

**F104.1 Dimensions.** Dimensions that are not stated as "maximum" or "minimum" are absolute.

**F104.1.1 Construction and Manufacturing Tolerances.** All dimensions are subject to conventional industry tolerances except where the requirement is stated as a range with specific minimum and maximum end points.



**Advisory F104.1.1 Construction and Manufacturing Tolerances.** Conventional industry tolerances recognized by this provision include those for field conditions and those that may be a necessary consequence of a particular manufacturing process. Recognized tolerances are not intended to apply to design work.

It is good practice when specifying dimensions to avoid specifying a tolerance where dimensions are absolute. For example, if this document requires “1½ inches,” avoid specifying “1½ inches plus or minus X inches.”

Where the requirement states a specified range, such as in Section 609.4 where grab bars must be installed between 33 inches and 36 inches above the floor, the range provides an adequate tolerance and therefore no tolerance outside of the range at either end point is permitted.

Where a requirement is a minimum or a maximum dimension that does not have two specific minimum and maximum end points, tolerances may apply. Where an element is to be installed at the minimum or maximum permitted dimension, such as “15 inches minimum” or “5 pounds maximum”, it would not be good practice to specify “5 pounds (plus X pounds) or 15 inches (minus X inches).” Rather, it would be good practice to specify a dimension less than the required maximum (or more than the required minimum) by the amount of the expected field or manufacturing tolerance and not to state any tolerance in conjunction with the specified dimension.

Specifying dimensions in design in the manner described above will better ensure that facilities and elements accomplish the level of accessibility intended by these requirements. It will also more often produce an end result of strict and literal compliance with the stated requirements and eliminate enforcement difficulties and issues that might otherwise arise. Information on specific tolerances may be available from industry or trade organizations, code groups and building officials, and published references.

**F104.2 Calculation of Percentages.** Where the required number of *elements* or *facilities* to be provided is determined by calculations of ratios or percentages and remainders or fractions result, the next greater whole number of such *elements* or *facilities* shall be provided. Where the determination of the required size or dimension of an *element* or *facility* involves ratios or percentages, rounding down for values less than one half shall be permitted.

**F104.3 Figures.** Unless specifically stated otherwise, figures are provided for informational purposes only.

Convention	Description
	dimension showing English units (in inches unless otherwise specified) above the line and SI units (in millimeters unless otherwise specified) below the line
	dimension for small measurements
	dimension showing a range with minimum - maximum
min	minimum
max	maximum
>	greater than
≥	greater than or equal to
<	less than
≤	less than or equal to
---	boundary of clear floor space or maneuvering clearance
---⌀---	centerline
---	a permitted element or its extension
➡	direction of travel or approach
	a wall, floor, ceiling or other element cut in section or plan
	a highlighted element in elevation or plan
	location zone of element, control or feature

**Figure F104**  
**Graphic Convention for Figures**

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**F105 Referenced Standards**

**F105.1 General.** The standards listed in F105.2 are incorporated by reference in this document and are part of the requirements to the prescribed extent of each such reference. The Director of the Federal Register has approved these standards for incorporation by reference in accordance with 5 U.S.C. 552(a) and 1 CFR part 51. Copies of the referenced standards may be inspected at the Architectural and Transportation Barriers Compliance Board, 1331 F Street, NW, Suite 1000, Washington, DC 20004; at the Department of Justice, Civil Rights Division, Disability Rights Section, 1425 New York Avenue, NW, Washington, DC; at the Department of Transportation, 400 Seventh Street, SW, Room 10424, Washington DC; or at the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA). For information on the availability of this material at NARA, call (202) 741-6030, or go to [http://www.archives.gov/federal\\_register/code\\_of\\_federal\\_regulations/ibr\\_locations.html](http://www.archives.gov/federal_register/code_of_federal_regulations/ibr_locations.html).

**F105.2 Referenced Standards.** The specific edition of the standards listed below are referenced in this document. Where differences occur between this document and the referenced standards, this document applies.

**F105.2.1 ANSI/BHMA.** Copies of the referenced standards may be obtained from the Builders Hardware Manufacturers Association, 355 Lexington Avenue, 17th floor, New York, NY 10017 (<http://www.buildershardware.com>).

ANSI/BHMA A156.10-1999 American National Standard for Power Operated Pedestrian Doors (see 404.3).

ANSI/BHMA A156.19-1997 American National Standard for Power Assist and Low Energy Power Operated Doors (see 404.3, 408.3.2.1, and 409.3.1).

ANSI/BHMA A156.19-2002 American National Standard for Power Assist and Low Energy Power Operated Doors (see 404.3, 408.3.2.1, and 409.3.1).

**Advisory F105.2.1 ANSI/BHMA.** ANSI/BHMA A156.10-1999 applies to power operated doors for pedestrian use which open automatically when approached by pedestrians. Included are provisions intended to reduce the chance of user injury or entrapment.

ANSI/BHMA A156.19-1997 and A156.19-2002 applies to power assist doors, low energy power operated doors or low energy power open doors for pedestrian use not provided for in ANSI/BHMA A156.10 for Power Operated Pedestrian Doors. Included are provisions intended to reduce the chance of user injury or entrapment.

**F105.2.2 ASME.** Copies of the referenced standards may be obtained from the American Society of Mechanical Engineers, Three Park Avenue, New York, New York 10016 (<http://www.asme.org>).

ASME A17.1- 2000 Safety Code for Elevators and Escalators, including ASME A17.1a-2002 Addenda and ASME A17.1b-2003 Addenda (see 407.1, 408.1, 409.1, and 810.9).

ASME A18.1-1999 Safety Standard for Platform Lifts and Stairway Chairlifts, including ASME A18.1a-2001 Addenda and ASME A18.1b-2001 Addenda (see 410.1).

ASME A18.1-2003 Safety Standard for Platform Lifts and Stairway Chairlifts, (see 410.1).

**Advisory F105.2.2 ASME.** ASME A17.1-2000 is used by local jurisdictions throughout the United States for the design, construction, installation, operation, inspection, testing, maintenance, alteration, and repair of elevators and escalators. The majority of the requirements apply to the operational machinery not seen or used by elevator passengers. ASME A17.1 requires a two-way means of emergency communications in passenger elevators. This means of communication must connect with emergency or authorized personnel and not an automated answering system. The communication system must be push button activated. The activation button must be permanently identified with the word "HELP." A visual indication acknowledging the establishment of a communications link to authorized personnel must be provided. The visual indication must remain on until the call is terminated by authorized personnel. The building location, the elevator car number, and the need for assistance must be provided to authorized personnel answering the emergency call. The use of a handset by the communications system is prohibited. Only the authorized personnel answering the call can terminate the call. Operating instructions for the communications system must be provided in the elevator car.

The provisions for escalators require that at least two flat steps be provided at the entrance and exit of every escalator and that steps on escalators be demarcated by yellow lines 2 inches wide maximum along the back and sides of steps.

ASME A18.1-1999 and ASME A18.1-2003 address the design, construction, installation, operation, inspection, testing, maintenance and repair of lifts that are intended for transportation of persons with disabilities. Lifts are classified as: vertical platform lifts, inclined platform lifts, inclined stairway chairlifts, private residence vertical platform lifts, private residence inclined platform lifts, and private residence inclined stairway chairlifts.

This document does not permit the use of inclined stairway chairlifts which do not provide platforms because such lifts require the user to transfer to a seat.

ASME A18.1 contains requirements for runways, which are the spaces in which platforms or seats move. The standard includes additional provisions for runway enclosures, electrical equipment and wiring, structural support, headroom clearance (which is 80 inches minimum), lower level access ramps and pits. The enclosure walls not used for entry or exit are required to have a grab bar the full length of the wall on platform lifts. Access ramps are required to meet requirements similar to those for ramps in Chapter 4 of this document.

Each of the lift types addressed in ASME A18.1 must meet requirements for capacity, load, speed, travel, operating devices, and control equipment. The maximum permitted height for operable parts is consistent with Section 308 of this document. The standard also addresses attendant operation. However, Section 410.1 of this document does not permit attendant operation.

**F105.2.3 ASTM.** Copies of the referenced standards may be obtained from the American Society for Testing and Materials, 100 Bar Harbor Drive, West Conshohocken, Pennsylvania 19428 (<http://www.astm.org>).

ASTM F 1292-99 Standard Specification for Impact Attenuation of Surface Systems Under and Around Playground Equipment (see 1008.2.6.2).

ASTM F 1292-04 Standard Specification for Impact Attenuation of Surfacing Materials Within the Use Zone of Playground Equipment (see 1008.2.6.2).

ASTM F 1487-01 Standard Consumer Safety Performance Specification for Playground Equipment for Public Use (see F106.5).

ASTM F 1951-99 Standard Specification for Determination of Accessibility of Surface Systems Under and Around Playground Equipment (see 1008.2.6.1).

**Advisory F105.2.3 ASTM.** ASTM F 1292-99 and ASTM F 1292-04 establish a uniform means to measure and compare characteristics of surfacing materials to determine whether materials provide a safe surface under and around playground equipment. These standards are referenced in the play areas requirements of this document when an accessible surface is required inside a play area use zone where a fall attenuating surface is also required. The standards cover the minimum impact attenuation requirements, when tested in accordance with Test Method F 355, for surface systems to be used under and around any piece of playground equipment from which a person may fall.

ASTM F 1487-01 establishes a nationally recognized safety standard for public playground equipment to address injuries identified by the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission. It defines the use zone, which is the ground area beneath and immediately adjacent to a play structure or play equipment designed for unrestricted circulation around the equipment and on whose surface it is predicted that a user would land when falling from or exiting a play structure or equipment. The play areas requirements in this document reference the ASTM F 1487 standard when defining accessible routes that overlap use zones requiring fall attenuating surfaces. If the use zone of a playground is not entirely surfaced with an accessible material, at least one accessible route within the use zone must be provided from the perimeter to all accessible play structures or components within the playground.

ASTM F 1951-99 establishes a uniform means to measure the characteristics of surface systems in order to provide performance specifications to select materials for use as an accessible surface under and around playground equipment. Surface materials that comply with this standard and are located in the use zone must also comply with ASTM F 1292. The test methods in this standard address access for children and adults who may traverse the surfacing to aid children who are playing. When a surface is tested it must have an average work per foot value for straight propulsion and for turning less than the average work per foot values for straight propulsion and for turning, respectively, on a hard, smooth surface with a grade of 7% (1:14).

**F105.2.4 ICC/IBC.** Copies of the referenced standard may be obtained from the International Code Council, 5203 Leesburg Pike, Suite 600, Falls Church, Virginia 22041 ([www.iccsafe.org](http://www.iccsafe.org)).

International Building Code, 2000 Edition (see F207.1, F207.2, F216.4.2, F216.4.3, and 1005.2.1).

International Building Code, 2001 Supplement (see F207.1 and F207.2).

International Building Code, 2003 Edition (see F207.1, F207.2, F216.4.2, F216.4.3, and 1005.2.1).

**Advisory F105.2.4 ICC/IBC.** International Building Code (IBC)-2000 (including 2001 Supplement to the International Codes) and IBC-2003 are referenced for means of egress, areas of refuge, and railings provided on fishing piers and platforms. At least one accessible means of egress is required for every accessible space and at least two accessible means of egress are required where more than one means of egress is required. The technical criteria for accessible means of egress allow the use of exit stairways and evacuation elevators when provided in conjunction with horizontal exits or areas of refuge. While typical elevators are not designed to be used during an emergency evacuation, evacuation elevators are designed with standby power and other features according to the elevator safety standard and can be used for the evacuation of individuals with disabilities. The IBC also provides requirements for areas of refuge, which are fire-rated spaces on levels above or below the exit discharge levels where people unable to use stairs can go to register a call for assistance and wait for evacuation.

The recreation facilities requirements of this document references two sections in the IBC for fishing piers and platforms. An exception addresses the height of the railings, guards, or handrails where a fishing pier or platform is required to include a guard, railing, or handrail higher than 34 inches (865 mm) above the ground or deck surface.

**F105.2.5 NFPA.** Copies of the referenced standards may be obtained from the National Fire Protection Association, 1 Batterymarch Park, Quincy, Massachusetts 02169-7471, (<http://www.nfpa.org>).

NFPA 72 National Fire Alarm Code, 1999 Edition (see 702.1 and 809.5.2).

NFPA 72 National Fire Alarm Code, 2002 Edition (see 702.1 and 809.5.2).

**Advisory F105.2.5 NFPA.** NFPA 72-1999 and NFPA 72-2002 address the application, installation, performance, and maintenance of protective signaling systems and their components. The NFPA 72 incorporates Underwriters Laboratory (UL) 1971 by reference. The standard specifies the characteristics of audible alarms, such as placement and sound levels. However, Section 702 of these requirements limits the volume of an audible alarm to 110 dBA, rather than the maximum 120 dBA permitted by NFPA 72-1999.

NFPA 72 specifies characteristics for visible alarms, such as flash frequency, color, intensity, placement, and synchronization. However, Section 702 of this document requires that visual alarm appliances be permanently installed. UL 1971 specifies intensity dispersion requirements for visible alarms. In particular, NFPA 72 requires visible alarms to have a light source that is clear or white and has polar dispersion complying with UL 1971.

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## F106 Definitions

**F106.1 General.** For the purpose of this document, the terms defined in F106.5 have the indicated meaning.

**Advisory F106.1 General.** Terms defined in Section 106.5 are italicized in the text of this document.

**F106.2 Terms Defined in Referenced Standard.** Terms not defined in F106.5 or in regulations issued by the Administrator of the General Services Administration, the Secretary of Defense, the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development, or the United States Postal Service to implement the Architectural Barriers Act but specifically defined in a referenced standard, shall have the specified meaning from the referenced standard unless otherwise stated

**F106.3 Undefined Terms.** The meaning of terms not specifically defined in F106.5 or in regulations issued by the Administrator of the General Services Administration, the Secretary of Defense, the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development, or the United States Postal Service

to implement the Architectural Barriers Act or in referenced standards shall be as defined by collegiate dictionaries in the sense that the context implies.

**F106.4 Interchangeability.** Words, terms and phrases used in the singular include the plural and those used in the plural include the singular.

### F106.5 Defined Terms.

**Accessible.** A *site, building, facility*, or portion thereof that complies with this part.

**Accessible Means of Egress.** A continuous and unobstructed way of egress travel from any point in a *building or facility* that provides an *accessible* route to an area of refuge, a horizontal exit, or a *public way*.

**Addition.** An expansion, extension, or increase in the gross floor area or height of a *building or facility*.

**Administrative Authority.** A governmental agency that adopts or enforces regulations and guidelines for the design, construction, or *alteration of buildings and facilities*.

**Alteration.** A change to a *building or facility* that affects or could affect the usability of the *building or facility* or portion thereof. *Alterations* include, but are not limited to, remodeling, renovation, rehabilitation, reconstruction, historic restoration, resurfacing of *circulation paths* or *vehicular ways*, changes or rearrangement of the structural parts or *elements*, and changes or rearrangement in the plan configuration of walls and full-height partitions. Normal maintenance, reroofing, painting or wallpapering, or changes to mechanical and electrical systems are not *alterations* unless they affect the usability of the *building or facility*.

**Amusement Attraction.** Any *facility*, or portion of a *facility*, located within an amusement park or theme park which provides amusement without the use of an amusement device. Amusement attractions include, but are not limited to, fun houses, barrels, and other attractions without seats.

**Amusement Ride.** A system that moves persons through a fixed course within a defined area for the purpose of amusement.

**Amusement Ride Seat.** A seat that is built-in or mechanically fastened to an *amusement ride* intended to be occupied by one or more passengers.

**Area of Sport Activity.** That portion of a room or *space* where the play or practice of a sport occurs.

**Assembly Area.** A *building* or *facility*, or portion thereof, used for the purpose of entertainment, worship, educational or civic gatherings, or similar purposes. For the purposes of these requirements, *assembly areas* include, but are not limited to, classrooms, lecture halls, courtrooms, public meeting rooms, public hearing rooms, legislative chambers, motion picture houses, auditoria, theaters, playhouses, dinner theaters, concert halls, centers for the performing arts, amphitheaters, arenas, stadiums, grandstands, or convention centers.

**Assistive Listening System (ALS).** An amplification system utilizing transmitters, receivers, and coupling devices to bypass the acoustical *space* between a sound source and a listener by means of induction loop, radio frequency, infrared, or direct-wired equipment.

**Boarding Pier.** A portion of a pier where a boat is temporarily secured for the purpose of embarking or disembarking.

**Boat Launch Ramp.** A sloped surface designed for launching and retrieving trailered boats and other water craft to and from a body of water.

**Boat Slip.** That portion of a pier, main pier, finger pier, or float where a boat is moored for the purpose of berthing, embarking, or disembarking.

**Building.** Any structure used or intended for supporting or sheltering any use or occupancy.

**Catch Pool.** A pool or designated section of a pool used as a terminus for water slide flumes.

**Characters.** Letters, numbers, punctuation marks and typographic symbols.

**Children's Use.** Describes *spaces* and *elements* specifically designed for use primarily by people 12 years old and younger.

**Circulation Path.** An exterior or interior way of passage provided for pedestrian travel, including but not limited to, *walks*, hallways, courtyards, elevators, platform lifts, *ramps*, stairways, and landings.

**Closed-Circuit Telephone.** A telephone with a dedicated line such as a house phone, courtesy phone or phone that must be used to gain entry to a *facility*.



**Common Use.** Interior or exterior *circulation paths*, rooms, *spaces*, or *elements* that are not for *public use* and are made available for the shared use of two or more people.

**Cross Slope.** The slope that is perpendicular to the direction of travel (see *running slope*).

**Curb Ramp.** A short *ramp* cutting through a curb or built up to it.

**Detectable Warning.** A standardized surface feature built in or applied to walking surfaces or other *elements* to warn of hazards on a *circulation path*.

**Element.** An architectural or mechanical component of a *building*, *facility*, *space*, or *site*.

**Elevated Play Component.** A *play component* that is approached above or below grade and that is part of a composite play structure consisting of two or more *play components* attached or functionally linked to create an integrated unit providing more than one play activity.

**Employee Work Area.** All or any portion of a *space* used only by employees and used only for work. Corridors, toilet rooms, kitchenettes and break rooms are not *employee work areas*.

**Entrance.** Any access point to a *building* or portion of a *building* or *facility* used for the purpose of entering. An *entrance* includes the approach *walk*, the vertical access leading to the *entrance* platform, the *entrance* platform itself, vestibule if provided, the entry door or gate, and the hardware of the entry door or gate.

**Facility.** All or any portion of *buildings*, structures, *site* improvements, *elements*, and pedestrian routes or *vehicular ways* located on a *site*.

**Gangway.** A variable-sloped pedestrian walkway that links a fixed structure or land with a floating structure. *Gangways* that connect to vessels are not addressed by this document.

**Golf Car Passage.** A continuous passage on which a motorized golf car can operate.

**Ground Level Play Component.** A *play component* that is approached and exited at the ground level.

**Joint Use.** Interior or exterior rooms, *spaces*, or *elements* that are common *space* available for use by all occupants of the *building*. *Joint use* does not include mechanical or custodial rooms, or areas occupied by other tenants.

**Lease.** Any agreement which establishes the relationship of landlord and tenant.

**Mail Boxes.** Receptacles for the receipt of documents, packages, or other deliverable matter. *Mail boxes* include, but are not limited to, post office boxes and receptacles provided by commercial mail-receiving agencies, apartment *facilities*, or schools.

**Marked Crossing.** A crosswalk or other identified path intended for pedestrian use in crossing a *vehicular way*.

**Mezzanine.** An intermediate level or levels between the floor and ceiling of any *story* with an aggregate floor area of not more than one-third of the area of the room or *space* in which the level or levels are located. *Mezzanines* have sufficient elevation that *space* for human occupancy can be provided on the floor below.

**Military Installation.** A base, camp, post, station, yard, center, homeport *facility* for any ship, or other activity or operation under the jurisdiction of the Department of Defense, including any *leased facility*. *Military installation* does not include any *facility* used primarily for civil works, rivers and harbors projects, or flood control projects. Multiple, contiguous, or collocated bases, camps, posts, stations, yards, centers, or home ports shall not be considered as constituting a single *military installation*.

**Occupant Load.** The number of persons for which the means of egress of a *building* or portion of a *building* is designed.

**Operable Part.** A component of an *element* used to insert or withdraw objects, or to activate, deactivate, or adjust the *element*.

**Pictogram.** A pictorial symbol that represents activities, *facilities*, or concepts.

**Play Area.** A portion of a *site* containing *play components* designed and constructed for children.

**Play Component.** An *element* intended to generate specific opportunities for play, socialization, or learning. *Play components* are manufactured or natural; and are stand-alone or part of a composite play structure.

**Public Entrance.** An *entrance* that is not a *service entrance* or a *restricted entrance*.

**Public Use.** Interior or exterior rooms, *spaces*, or *elements* that are made available to the public. *Public use* may be provided at a *building* or *facility* that is privately or publicly owned.

**Public Way.** Any street, alley or other parcel of land open to the outside air leading to a public street, which has been deeded, dedicated or otherwise permanently appropriated to the public for *public use*, and which has a clear width and height of not less than 10 feet (3050 mm).

**Qualified Historic Building or Facility.** A *building* or *facility* that is listed in or eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places, or designated as historic under an appropriate State or local law.

**Ramp.** A walking surface that has a *running slope* steeper than 1:20.

**Residential Dwelling Unit.** A unit intended to be used as a residence, that is primarily long-term in nature. *Residential dwelling units* do not include *transient lodging*, inpatient medical care, licensed long-term care, and detention or correctional *facilities*.

**Restricted Entrance.** An *entrance* that is made available for *common use* on a controlled basis but not *public use* and that is not a *service entrance*.

**Running Slope.** The slope that is parallel to the direction of travel (see *cross slope*).

**Self-Service Storage.** *Building or facility* designed and used for the purpose of renting or *leasing* individual storage *spaces* to customers for the purpose of storing and removing personal property on a self-service basis.

**Service Entrance.** An *entrance* intended primarily for delivery of goods or services.

**Site.** A parcel of land bounded by a property line or a designated portion of a public right-of-way.

**Soft Contained Play Structure.** A play structure made up of one or more *play components* where the user enters a fully enclosed play environment that utilizes pliable materials, such as plastic, netting, or fabric.

**Space.** A definable area, such as a room, toilet room, hall, *assembly area*, *entrance*, storage room, alcove, courtyard, or lobby.

**Story.** That portion of a *building or facility* designed for human occupancy included between the upper surface of a floor and upper surface of the floor or roof next above. A *story* containing one or more *mezzanines* has more than one floor level.

**Structural Frame.** The columns and the girders, beams, and trusses having direct connections to the columns and all other members that are essential to the stability of the *building or facility* as a whole.

**Tactile.** An object that can be perceived using the sense of touch.

**Technically Infeasible.** With respect to an *alteration of a building or a facility*, something that has little likelihood of being accomplished because existing structural conditions would require removing or *altering* a load-bearing member that is an essential part of the *structural frame*; or because other existing physical or *site* constraints prohibit modification or *addition of elements, spaces, or features* that are in full and strict compliance with the minimum requirements.

**Teeing Ground.** In golf, the starting place for the hole to be played.

**Transfer Device.** Equipment designed to facilitate the transfer of a person from a wheelchair or other mobility aid to and from an *amusement ride seat*.

**Transient Lodging.** A *building or facility* containing one or more guest room(s) for sleeping that provides accommodations that are primarily short-term in nature. *Transient lodging* does not include *residential dwelling units* intended to be used as a residence, inpatient medical care *facilities*, licensed long-term care *facilities*, detention or correctional *facilities*, or *private buildings or facilities* that contain not more than five rooms for rent or hire and that are actually occupied by the proprietor as the residence of such proprietor.

**Transition Plate.** A sloping pedestrian walking surface located at the end(s) of a *gangway*.

**TTY.** An abbreviation for teletypewriter. Machinery that employs interactive text-based communication through the transmission of coded signals across the telephone network. *TTYs* may include, for example, devices known as TDDs (telecommunication display devices or

telecommunication devices for deaf persons) or computers with special modems. *TTYs* are also called text telephones.

**Use Zone.** The ground level area beneath and immediately adjacent to a play structure or play equipment that is designated by ASTM F 1487 (incorporated by reference, see “Referenced Standards” in Chapter 1) for unrestricted circulation around the play equipment and where it is predicted that a user would land when falling from or exiting the play equipment.

**Vehicular Way.** A route provided for vehicular traffic, such as in a street, driveway, or parking *facility*.

**Walk.** An exterior prepared surface for pedestrian use, including pedestrian areas such as plazas and courts.

**Wheelchair Space.** *Space* for a single wheelchair and its occupant.

**Work Area Equipment.** Any machine, instrument, engine, motor, pump, conveyor, or other apparatus used to perform work. As used in this document, this term shall apply only to equipment that is permanently installed or built-in in *employee work areas* subject to the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA). *Work area equipment* does not include passenger elevators and other accessible means of vertical transportation.

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## ABA CHAPTER 2: SCOPING REQUIREMENTS

### F201 Application

**F201.1 Scope.** All areas of newly designed and newly constructed *buildings* and *facilities* and *altered* or *leased* portions of existing *buildings* and *facilities* shall comply with these requirements.

**Advisory F201.1 Scope.** The requirements are to be applied to all areas of a facility unless exempted, or where scoping limits the number of multiple elements required to be accessible. For example, not all medical care patient rooms are required to be accessible; those that are not required to be accessible are not required to comply with these requirements. However, common use and public use spaces such as recovery rooms, examination rooms, and cafeterias are not exempt from these requirements and must be accessible.

**F201.2 Application Based on Building or Facility Use.** Where a *site*, *building*, *facility*, room, or *space* contains more than one use, each portion shall comply with the applicable requirements for that use.

**F201.3 Temporary and Permanent Structures.** These requirements shall apply to temporary and permanent *buildings* and *facilities*.

**Advisory F201.3 Temporary and Permanent Structures.** Temporary buildings or facilities covered by these requirements include, but are not limited to, reviewing stands, temporary classrooms, bleacher areas, stages, platforms and daises, fixed furniture systems, wall systems, and exhibit areas, temporary banking facilities, and temporary health screening facilities. Structures and equipment directly associated with the actual processes of construction are not required to be accessible as permitted in F203.3.

### F202 Existing Buildings and Facilities

**F202.1 General.** *Additions* and *alterations* to existing *buildings* or *facilities*, including *leased buildings* or *facilities*, shall comply with F202.

**F202.2 Additions.** Each *addition* to an existing *building* or *facility* shall comply with the requirements for new construction.

**F202.2.1 Accessible Route.** At least one *accessible* route shall be provided within the *site* from *accessible* parking *spaces* and *accessible* passenger loading zones; public streets and sidewalks; and public transportation stops to an *accessible entrance* serving the *addition*. If the only *accessible entrances* serving the *addition* are provided in the existing *building* or *facility*, the *accessible* route shall connect at least one existing *entrance* to all *accessible spaces* and *elements* within the *addition*. In addition, *elements* and *spaces* specified in F202.2.2 through F202.2.5 shall be on an *accessible* route.

**F202.2.2 Entrance.** Where an *entrance* is not provided in an *addition*, at least one *entrance* in the existing *building* or *facility* shall comply with F206.4 and shall serve the *addition*.

**F202.2.3 Toilet and Bathing Facilities.** Where toilet *facilities* and bathing *facilities* are not provided in an *addition* but are provided in the existing *building* or *facility* to serve the *addition*, the toilet *facilities* and bathing *facilities* shall comply with F202.2.3.

**EXCEPTION:** In *alterations* to areas serving *additions* where it is *technically infeasible* to comply with 603, *altering* existing toilet or bathing rooms is not required where a single unisex toilet room or bathing room complying with F213.2.1 is provided to serve the *addition*.

**F202.2.3.1 Existing Toilet Facility.** Where existing toilet *facilities* are provided in the existing *building* or *facility*, at least one toilet *facility* for men and at least one toilet *facility* for women shall comply with F213.2 and F213.3 and shall serve the *addition*.

**EXCEPTION:** Where only one toilet *facility* is provided in the existing *building* or *facility*, one toilet *facility* shall comply with F213.2 and F213.3 and shall serve the *addition*.

**F202.2.3.2 Existing Bathing Facility.** Where existing bathing *facilities* are provided in the existing *building* or *facility*, at least one bathing *facility* for men and at least one bathing *facility* for women shall comply with F213.2 and F213.3 and shall serve the *addition*.

**EXCEPTION:** Where only one bathing *facility* is provided in the existing *building* or *facility*, one bathing *facility* shall comply with F213.2 and F213.3 and shall serve the *addition*.

**F202.2.4 Public Telephone.** Where a public telephone is not provided in an *addition* but is provided in the existing *building* or *facility* to serve the *addition*, at least one public telephone in the existing *building* or *facility* shall comply with F217.

**F202.2.5 Drinking Fountain.** Where a drinking fountain is not provided in an *addition* but is provided in the existing *building* or *facility* to serve the *addition*, at least one drinking fountain in the existing *building* or *facility* shall comply with 602.1 through 602.6.

**F202.3 Alterations.** Where existing *elements* or *spaces* are *altered*, each *altered element* or *space* shall comply with the applicable requirements of Chapter 2.

**EXCEPTIONS:** 1. Unless required by F202.4, where *elements* or *spaces* are *altered* and the *circulation path* to the *altered element* or *space* is not *altered*, an *accessible* route shall not be required.

2. In *alterations*, where compliance with applicable requirements is *technically infeasible*, the *alteration* shall comply with the requirements to the maximum extent feasible.

3. *Residential dwelling units* not required to be *accessible* in compliance with a standard issued pursuant to the Architectural Barriers Act or Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended, shall not be required to comply with F202.3.

**Advisory F202.3 Alterations.** Although covered entities are permitted to limit the scope of an alteration to individual elements, the alteration of multiple elements within a room or space may provide a cost-effective opportunity to make the entire room or space accessible. Any elements or spaces of the building or facility that are required to comply with these requirements must be made accessible within the scope of the alteration, to the maximum extent feasible. If providing accessibility in compliance with these requirements for people with one type of disability (e.g., people who use wheelchairs) is not feasible, accessibility must still be provided in compliance with the requirements for people with other types of disabilities (e.g., people who have hearing impairments or who have vision impairments) to the extent that such accessibility is feasible.

**F202.3.1 Prohibited Reduction in Access.** An *alteration* that decreases or has the effect of decreasing the *accessibility* of a *building* or *facility* below the requirements for new construction at the time of the *alteration* is prohibited.

**F202.3.2 Extent of Application.** An *alteration* of an existing *element*, *space*, or area of a *building* or *facility* shall not impose a requirement for *accessibility* greater than required for new construction.

**F202.4 Alterations Affecting Primary Function Areas.** In addition to the requirements of F202.3, an *alteration* that affects or could affect the usability of or access to an area containing a primary function shall be made so as to ensure that, to the maximum extent feasible, the path of travel to the *altered* area, including the rest rooms, telephones, and drinking fountains serving the *altered* area, are readily *accessible* to and usable by individuals with disabilities, unless such *alterations* are disproportionate to the overall *alterations* in terms of cost and scope as determined under criteria established by the Administrator of the General Services Administration, the Secretary of Defense, the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development, or the United States Postal Service.

**EXCEPTION:** *Residential dwelling units* shall not be required to comply with F202.4.

**Advisory F202.4 Alterations Affecting Primary Function Areas.** An area of a building or facility containing a major activity for which the building or facility is intended is a primary function area. There can be multiple areas containing a primary function in a single building. Primary function areas are not limited to public use areas. For example, both a bank lobby and the bank's employee areas such as the teller areas and walk-in safe are primary function areas. Also, mixed use facilities may include numerous primary function areas for each use. Areas containing a primary function do not include: mechanical rooms, boiler rooms, supply storage rooms, employee lounges or locker rooms, janitorial closets, entrances, corridors, or restrooms.

**F202.5 Alterations to Qualified Historic Buildings and Facilities.** *Alterations* to a *qualified historic building* or *facility* shall comply with F202.3 and F202.4.

**EXCEPTION:** Where the State Historic Preservation Officer or Advisory Council on Historic Preservation determines that compliance with the requirements for *accessible* routes, *entrances*, or toilet *facilities* would threaten or destroy the historic significance of the *building* or *facility*, the exceptions for *alterations* to *qualified historic buildings* or *facilities* for that *element* shall be permitted to apply.

**Advisory F202.5 Alterations to Qualified Historic Buildings and Facilities Exception.**

Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act requires that a Federal agency with jurisdiction over a proposed Federal or federally assisted undertaking consider the effect of the action on buildings and facilities listed in or eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places prior to approving the expenditure of any Federal funds. The Advisory Council on Historic Preservation has established procedures for Federal agencies to meet this statutory responsibility. See 36 CFR Part 800. The procedures require Federal agencies to consult with the State Historic Preservation Officer, and provide for involvement by the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation in certain cases. There are exceptions for alterations to qualified historic buildings and facilities for accessible routes (F206.2.1 Exception 1 and F206.2.3 Exception 6); entrances (F206.4 Exception 2); and toilet facilities (F213.2 Exception 2). These exceptions apply only when the State Historic Preservation Officer or the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation agrees that compliance with requirements for the specific element would threaten or destroy the historic significance of the building or facility.

The AccessAbility Office at the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) provides a variety of resources for museum operators and historic properties including: the Design for Accessibility Guide and the Disability Symbols. Contact NEA about these and other resources at (202) 682-5532 or [www.arts.gov](http://www.arts.gov).

**F202.6 Leases.** *Buildings or facilities* for which new *leases* are negotiated by the Federal government after the effective date of the revised standards issued pursuant to the Architectural Barriers Act, including new *leases* for *buildings or facilities* previously occupied by the Federal government, shall comply with F202.6.

**EXCEPTIONS:** 1. *Buildings or facilities leased* for use by officials servicing disasters on a temporary, emergency basis shall not be required to comply with F202.6.

2. *Buildings or facilities leased* for 12 months or less shall not be required to comply with F202.6 provided that the *lease* may not be extended or renewed.

**F202.6.1 Joint Use Areas.** *Joint use* areas serving the *leased space* shall comply with F202.6.

**EXCEPTION:** *Alterations and additions* to *joint use* areas serving the *leased space* shall not be required to comply with F202.2, F202.3, and F202.5 provided that the *alterations* are not undertaken by or on behalf of the Federal government.

**Advisory F202.6.1 Joint Use Areas Exception.** When negotiating a lease, ensure that joint use areas are accessible. Inaccessible joint use areas may prevent access to and from leased space.

**F202.6.2 Accessible Route.** Primary function areas, as defined by Administrator of the General Services Administration, the Secretary of Defense, the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development, and the United States Postal Service, shall be served by at least one *accessible* route complying with F206. *Elements and spaces* required to be *accessible* by F202.6 shall be on an *accessible* route complying with F206.



**EXCEPTION:** Fire alarms required by F202.6.5.2 and *assistive listening systems* required by F202.6.5.5 shall not be required to be on an *accessible* route.

**F202.6.3 Toilet and Bathing Facilities.** Where provided, toilet *facilities* and bathing *facilities* shall comply with F202.6.3.

**F202.6.3.1 Multiple Facilities.** At least one toilet *facility* or bathing *facility* for each sex on each floor that has toilet *facilities* or bathing *facilities* shall comply with F213.2 and F213.3.

**F202.6.3.2 Single Facilities.** Where only one toilet or bathing *facility* is provided in a *building* or *facility* for each sex, either one unisex toilet or bathing *facility*, or one toilet or bathing *facility* for each sex, shall comply with F213.2 and F213.3.

**F202.6.4 Parking.** Parking shall comply with F208.

**F202.6.5 Other Elements and Spaces.** Where provided, the following *elements* and *spaces* shall comply with F202.6.5.

**F202.6.5.1 Drinking Fountains.** Drinking fountains shall comply with F211.

**F202.6.5.2 Fire Alarms.** Fire alarms shall comply with F215.

**EXCEPTION:** Fire alarms shall not be required to comply with 702 where existing power sources must be upgraded to meet the requirement.

**F202.6.5.3 Public Telephones.** Public telephones shall comply with F217.

**F202.6.5.4 Dining Surfaces and Work Surfaces.** Dining surfaces and work surfaces shall comply with F226.

**F202.6.5.5 Assembly Areas.** *Assistive listening systems* shall comply with F219 and assembly seating shall comply with F221.

**F202.6.5.6 Sales and Service Counters.** Sales and service counters shall comply with F227.

**F202.6.5.7 Depositories, Vending Machines, Change Machines, and Mail Boxes.** Depositories, vending machines, change machines, and *mail boxes* shall comply with F228.

**F202.6.5.8 Residential Facilities.** *Residential dwelling units* shall comply with F233.

## **F203 General Exceptions**

**F203.1 General.** *Sites, buildings, facilities, and elements* are exempt from these requirements to the extent specified by F203.

**F203.2 Existing Elements.** *Elements* in compliance with an earlier standard issued pursuant to the Architectural Barriers Act or Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended shall not be required to comply with these requirements unless *altered*.

**Advisory F203.2 Existing Elements.** The exception at F203.2 does not obviate or limit in any way a federal agency's obligation to provide reasonable accommodations pursuant to the Rehabilitation Act of 1973. Federal employees with disabilities are entitled to reasonable accommodations in the workplace. Such accommodations may include modifications to workstations or to other areas of the workplace, including the common areas such as toilet rooms, meeting rooms, or break rooms. Reasonable accommodations are always provided on a case-by-case basis and are specific to the unique needs of a person. As such, an accommodation may be consistent with, or depart from, the specific technical requirements of this, or any other, document.

In addition, the exception at F203.2 provides that compliance with an earlier standard issued under Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act satisfies the requirements of the Architectural Barriers Act; the exception does not obviate or limit a Federal agency's authority to enforce requirements issued pursuant to Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act, including requirements for making reasonable modifications to policies, practices, and procedures, or making structural changes to facilities in order to make a program or activity accessible to and usable by persons with disabilities.

**F203.3 Construction Sites.** Structures and *sites* directly associated with the actual processes of construction, including but not limited to, scaffolding, bridging, materials hoists, materials storage, and construction trailers shall not be required to comply with these requirements or to be on an *accessible* route. Portable toilet units provided for use exclusively by construction personnel on a construction *site* shall not be required to comply with F213 or to be on an *accessible* route.

**F203.4 Raised Areas.** Areas raised primarily for purposes of security, life safety, or fire safety, including but not limited to, observation or lookout galleries, prison guard towers, fire towers, or life guard stands shall not be required to comply with these requirements or to be on an *accessible* route.

**F203.5 Limited Access Spaces.** *Spaces* accessed only by ladders, catwalks, crawl *spaces*, or very narrow passageways shall not be required to comply with these requirements or to be on an *accessible* route.

**F203.6 Machinery Spaces.** *Spaces* frequented only by service personnel for maintenance, repair, or occasional monitoring of equipment shall not be required to comply with these requirements or to be on an *accessible* route. Machinery *spaces* include, but are not limited to, elevator pits or elevator penthouses; mechanical, electrical or communications equipment rooms; piping or equipment catwalks; water or sewage treatment pump rooms and stations; electric substations and transformer vaults; and highway and tunnel utility *facilities*.

**F203.7 Single Occupant Structures.** Single occupant structures accessed only by passageways below grade or elevated above standard curb height, including but not limited to, toll booths that are accessed only by underground tunnels, shall not be required to comply with these requirements or to be on an *accessible* route.

**F203.8 Detention and Correctional Facilities.** In detention and correctional *facilities*, *common use* areas that are used only by inmates or detainees and security personnel and that do not serve holding

cells or housing cells required to comply with F232, shall not be required to comply with these requirements or to be on an *accessible* route.

**F203.9 Residential Facilities.** In residential *facilities*, *common use* areas that do not serve *residential dwelling units* required to provide mobility features complying with 809.2 through 809.4 shall not be required to comply with these requirements or to be on an *accessible* route.

**F203.10 Raised Refereeing, Judging, and Scoring Areas.** Raised structures used solely for refereeing, judging, or scoring a sport shall not be required to comply with these requirements or to be on an *accessible* route.

**F203.11 Water Slides.** Water slides shall not be required to comply with these requirements or to be on an *accessible* route.

**F203.12 Animal Containment Areas.** Animal containment areas that are not for *public use* shall not be required to comply with these requirements or to be on an *accessible* route.

**Advisory F203.12 Animal Containment Areas.** Public circulation routes where animals may travel, such as in petting zoos and passageways alongside animal pens in State fairs, are not eligible for the exception.

**F203.13 Raised Boxing or Wrestling Rings.** Raised boxing or wrestling rings shall not be required to comply with these requirements or to be on an *accessible* route.

**F203.14 Raised Diving Boards and Diving Platforms.** Raised diving boards and diving platforms shall not be required to comply with these requirements or to be on an *accessible* route.

## **F204 Protruding Objects**

**F204.1 General.** Protruding objects on *circulation paths* shall comply with 307.

**EXCEPTIONS:** 1. Within *areas of sport activity*, protruding objects on *circulation paths* shall not be required to comply with 307.

2. Within *play areas*, protruding objects on *circulation paths* shall not be required to comply with 307 provided that ground level *accessible* routes provide vertical clearance in compliance with 1008.2.

## **F205 Operable Parts**

**F205.1 General.** *Operable parts* on *accessible elements*, *accessible routes*, and in *accessible rooms* and *spaces* shall comply with 309.

**EXCEPTIONS:** 1. *Operable parts* that are intended for use only by service or maintenance personnel shall not be required to comply with 309.

2. Electrical or communication receptacles serving a dedicated use shall not be required to comply with 309.

3. Where two or more outlets are provided in a kitchen above a length of counter top that is uninterrupted by a sink or appliance, one outlet shall not be required to comply with 309.

4. Floor electrical receptacles shall not be required to comply with 309.

5. HVAC diffusers shall not be required to comply with 309.
6. Except for light switches, where redundant controls are provided for a single *element*, one control in each *space* shall not be required to comply with 309.
7. Cleats and other boat securement devices shall not be required to comply with 309.3.
8. Exercise machines and exercise equipment shall not be required to comply with 309.

**Advisory F205.1 General.** Controls covered by F205.1 include, but are not limited to, light switches, circuit breakers, duplexes and other convenience receptacles, environmental and appliance controls, plumbing fixture controls, and security and intercom systems.

## F206 Accessible Routes

**F206.1 General.** *Accessible* routes shall be provided in accordance with F206 and shall comply with Chapter 4 except that the exemptions at 403.5, 405.5, and 405.8 shall not apply.

**F206.2 Where Required.** *Accessible* routes shall be provided where required by F206.2.

**F206.2.1 Site Arrival Points.** At least one *accessible* route shall be provided within the *site* from *accessible* parking *spaces* and *accessible* passenger loading zones; public streets and sidewalks; and public transportation stops to the *accessible building* or *facility entrance* they serve.

**EXCEPTIONS:** 1. Where exceptions for *alterations* to *qualified historic buildings* or *facilities* are permitted by F202.5, no more than one *accessible* route from a *site* arrival point to an *accessible entrance* shall be required.

2. An *accessible* route shall not be required between *site* arrival points and the *building* or *facility entrance* if the only means of access between them is a *vehicular way* not providing pedestrian access.

**Advisory F206.2.1 Site Arrival Points.** Each site arrival point must be connected by an accessible route to the accessible building entrance or entrances served. Where two or more similar site arrival points, such as bus stops, serve the same accessible entrance or entrances, both bus stops must be on accessible routes. In addition, the accessible routes must serve all of the accessible entrances on the site.

**Advisory F206.2.1 Site Arrival Points Exception 2.** Access from site arrival points may include vehicular ways. Where a vehicular way, or a portion of a vehicular way, is provided for pedestrian travel, such as within a shopping center or shopping mall parking lot, this exception does not apply.

**F206.2.2 Within a Site.** At least one *accessible* route shall connect *accessible buildings*, *accessible facilities*, *accessible elements*, and *accessible spaces* that are on the same *site*.

**EXCEPTION:** An *accessible* route shall not be required between *accessible buildings*, *accessible facilities*, *accessible elements* and *accessible spaces* if the only means of access between them is a *vehicular way* not providing pedestrian access.

**Advisory F206.2.2 Within a Site.** An accessible route is required to connect to the boundary of each area of sport activity. Examples of areas of sport activity include: soccer fields, basketball courts, baseball fields, running tracks, skating rinks, and the area surrounding a piece of gymnastic equipment. While the size of an area of sport activity may vary from sport to sport, each includes only the space needed to play. Where multiple sports fields or courts are provided, an accessible route is required to each field or area of sport activity.

**F206.2.3 Multi-Story Buildings and Facilities.** At least one *accessible* route shall connect each *story* and *mezzanine* in multi-story buildings and facilities.

**EXCEPTIONS:** 1. Where a two *story building or facility* has one *story* with an *occupant load* of five or fewer persons that does not contain *public use space*, that *story* shall not be required to be connected to the *story* above or below.

2. In detention and correctional *facilities*, an *accessible* route shall not be required to connect *stories* where cells with mobility features required to comply with 807.2, all *common use* areas serving cells with mobility features required to comply with 807.2, and all *public use* areas are on an *accessible* route.

3. In residential *facilities*, an *accessible* route shall not be required to connect *stories* where *residential dwelling units* with mobility features required to comply with 809.2 through 809.4, all *common use* areas serving *residential dwelling units* with mobility features required to comply with 809.2 through 809.4, and *public use* areas serving *residential dwelling units* are on an *accessible* route.

4. Within multi-story *transient lodging* guest rooms with mobility features required to comply with 806.2, an *accessible* route shall not be required to connect *stories* provided that *spaces* complying with 806.2 are on an *accessible* route and sleeping accommodations for two persons minimum are provided on a *story* served by an *accessible* route.

5. In air traffic control towers, an *accessible* route shall not be required to serve the cab and the floor immediately below the cab.

6. Where exceptions for *alterations* to *qualified historic buildings or facilities* are permitted by F202.5, an *accessible* route shall not be required to *stories* located above or below the *accessible story*.

**Advisory F206.2.3 Multi-Story Buildings and Facilities.** Spaces and elements located on a level not required to be served by an accessible route must fully comply with this document. While a mezzanine may be a change in level, it is not a story. If an accessible route is required to connect stories within a building or facility, the accessible route must serve all mezzanines.

**Advisory F206.2.3 Multi-Story Buildings and Facilities Exception 3.** Where common use areas are provided for the use of residents, it is presumed that all such common use areas “serve” accessible dwelling units unless use is restricted to residents occupying certain dwelling units. For example, if all residents are permitted to use all laundry rooms, then all laundry rooms “serve” accessible dwelling units.

**Advisory F206.2.3 Multi-Story Buildings and Facilities Exception 3 (Continued).**

However, if the laundry room on the first floor is restricted to use by residents on the first floor, and the second floor laundry room is for use by occupants of the second floor, then first floor accessible units are “served” only by laundry rooms on the first floor. In this example, an accessible route is not required to the second floor provided that all accessible units and all common use areas serving them are on the first floor.

**F206.2.3.1 Stairs and Escalators in Existing Buildings.** In *alterations* and *additions*, where an escalator or stair is provided where none existed previously and major structural modifications are necessary for the installation, an *accessible* route shall be provided between the levels served by the escalator or stair unless exempted by F206.2.3 Exceptions 1 through 6.

**F206.2.4 Spaces and Elements.** At least one *accessible* route shall connect *accessible building* or *facility entrances* with all *accessible spaces* and *elements* within the *building* or *facility* which are otherwise connected by a *circulation path* unless exempted by F206.2.3 Exceptions 1 through 6.

**EXCEPTIONS:** 1. Raised courtroom stations, including judges' benches, clerks' stations, bailiffs' stations, deputy clerks' stations, and court reporters' stations shall not be required to provide vertical access provided that the required clear floor *space*, maneuvering *space*, and, if appropriate, electrical service are installed at the time of initial construction to allow future installation of a means of vertical access complying with 405, 407, 408, or 410 without requiring substantial reconstruction of the *space*.

2. In *assembly areas* with fixed seating required to comply with F221, an *accessible* route shall not be required to serve fixed seating where *wheelchair spaces* required to be on an *accessible* route are not provided.

3. *Accessible* routes shall not be required to connect *mezzanines* where *buildings* or *facilities* have no more than one story. In addition, *accessible* routes shall not be required to connect stories or *mezzanines* where multi-story *buildings* or *facilities* are exempted by F206.2.3 Exceptions 1 through 6.

**Advisory F206.2.4 Spaces and Elements.** Accessible routes must connect all spaces and elements required to be accessible including, but not limited to, raised areas and speaker platforms.

**Advisory F206.2.4 Spaces and Elements Exception 1.** The exception does not apply to areas that are likely to be used by members of the public who are not employees of the court such as jury areas, attorney areas, or witness stands.

**F206.2.5 Restaurants and Cafeterias.** In restaurants and cafeterias, an *accessible* route shall be provided to all dining areas, including raised or sunken dining areas, and outdoor dining areas.

**EXCEPTIONS:** 1. In *alterations*, an *accessible* route shall not be required to existing raised or sunken dining areas, or to all parts of existing outdoor dining areas where the same services and decor are provided in an *accessible space* usable by the public and not restricted to use by people with disabilities.

2. In sports *facilities*, tiered dining areas providing seating required to comply with F221 shall be required to have *accessible* routes serving at least 25 percent of the dining area provided that

*accessible* routes serve seating complying with F221 and each tier is provided with the same services.

**Advisory F206.2.5 Restaurants and Cafeterias Exception 1.** Examples of “same services” include, but are not limited to, bar service, rooms having smoking and non-smoking sections, lotto and other table games, carry-out, and buffet service. Examples of “same decor” include, but are not limited to, seating at or near windows and railings with views, areas designed with a certain theme, party and banquet rooms, and rooms where entertainment is provided.

**F206.2.6 Performance Areas.** Where a *circulation path* directly connects a performance area to an assembly seating area, an *accessible* route shall directly connect the assembly seating area with the performance area. An *accessible* route shall be provided from performance areas to ancillary areas or *facilities* used by performers unless exempted by F206.2.3 Exceptions 1 through 6.

**F206.2.7 Press Boxes.** Press boxes in *assembly areas* shall be on an *accessible* route.

**EXCEPTIONS:** 1. An *accessible* route shall not be required to press boxes in bleachers that have points of entry at only one level provided that the aggregate area of all press boxes is 500 square feet (46 m<sup>2</sup>) maximum.

2. An *accessible* route shall not be required to free-standing press boxes that are elevated above grade 12 feet (3660 mm) minimum provided that the aggregate area of all press boxes is 500 square feet (46 m<sup>2</sup>) maximum.

**Advisory F206.2.7 Press Boxes Exception 2.** Where a facility contains multiple assembly areas, the aggregate area of the press boxes in each assembly area is to be calculated separately. For example, if a university has a soccer stadium with three press boxes elevated 12 feet (3660 mm) or more above grade and each press box is 150 square feet (14 m<sup>2</sup>), then the aggregate area of the soccer stadium press boxes is less than 500 square feet (465 m<sup>2</sup>) and Exception 2 applies to the soccer stadium. If that same university also has a football stadium with two press boxes elevated 12 feet (3660 mm) or more above grade and one press box is 250 square feet (23 m<sup>2</sup>), and the second is 275 square feet (26 m<sup>2</sup>), then the aggregate area of the football stadium press boxes is more than 500 square feet (465 m<sup>2</sup>) and Exception 2 does not apply to the football stadium.

**F206.2.8 Amusement Rides.** *Amusement rides* required to comply with F234 shall provide *accessible* routes in accordance with F206.2.8. *Accessible* routes serving *amusement rides* shall comply with Chapter 4 except as modified by 1002.2.

**F206.2.8.1 Load and Unload Areas.** Load and unload areas shall be on an *accessible* route. Where load and unload areas have more than one loading or unloading position, at least one loading and unloading position shall be on an *accessible* route.

**F206.2.8.2 Wheelchair Spaces, Ride Seats Designed for Transfer, and Transfer Devices.** When *amusement rides* are in the load and unload position, *wheelchair spaces* complying with

1002.4, *amusement ride seats* designed for transfer complying with 1002.5, and *transfer devices* complying with 1002.6 shall be on an *accessible* route.

**F206.2.9 Recreational Boating Facilities.** *Boat slips* required to comply with F235.2 and *boarding piers* at *boat launch ramps* required to comply with F235.3 shall be on an *accessible* route. *Accessible* routes serving recreational boating *facilities* shall comply with Chapter 4 except as modified by 1003.2.

**F206.2.10 Bowling Lanes.** Where bowling lanes are provided, at least 5 percent, but no fewer than one of each type of bowling lane, shall be on an *accessible* route.

**F206.2.11 Court Sports.** In court sports, at least one *accessible* route shall directly connect both sides of the court.

**F206.2.12 Exercise Machines and Equipment.** Exercise machines and equipment required to comply with F236 shall be on an *accessible* route.

**F206.2.13 Fishing Piers and Platforms.** Fishing piers and platforms shall be on an *accessible* route. *Accessible* routes serving fishing piers and platforms shall comply with Chapter 4 except as modified by 1005.1.

**F206.2.14 Golf Facilities.** At least one *accessible* route shall connect *accessible elements* and *spaces* within the boundary of the golf course. In addition, *accessible* routes serving golf car rental areas; bag drop areas; course weather shelters complying with F238.2.3; course toilet rooms; and practice putting greens, practice *teeing grounds*, and teeing stations at driving ranges complying with F238.3 shall comply with Chapter 4 except as modified by 1006.2.

**EXCEPTION:** *Golf car passages* complying with 1006.3 shall be permitted to be used for all or part of *accessible* routes required by F206.2.14.

**F206.2.15 Miniature Golf Facilities.** Holes required to comply with F239.2, including the start of play, shall be on an *accessible* route. *Accessible* routes serving miniature golf *facilities* shall comply with Chapter 4 except as modified by 1007.2.

**F206.2.16 Play Areas.** *Play areas* shall provide *accessible* routes in accordance with F206.2.16. *Accessible* routes serving *play areas* shall comply with Chapter 4 except as modified by 1008.2.

**F206.2.16.1 Ground Level and Elevated Play Components.** At least one *accessible* route shall be provided within the *play area*. The *accessible* route shall connect *ground level play components* required to comply with F240.2.1 and *elevated play components* required to comply with F240.2.2, including entry and exit points of the *play components*.

**F206.2.16.2 Soft Contained Play Structures.** Where three or fewer entry points are provided for *soft contained play structures*, at least one entry point shall be on an *accessible* route. Where four or more entry points are provided for *soft contained play structures*, at least two entry points shall be on an *accessible* route.



**F206.3 Location.** *Accessible* routes shall coincide with or be located in the same area as general *circulation paths*. Where *circulation paths* are interior, required *accessible* routes shall also be interior.

**Advisory F206.3 Location.** The accessible route must be in the same area as the general circulation path. This means that circulation paths, such as vehicular ways designed for pedestrian traffic, walks, and unpaved paths that are designed to be routinely used by pedestrians must be accessible or have an accessible route nearby. Additionally, accessible vertical interior circulation must be in the same area as stairs and escalators, not isolated in the back of the facility.

**F206.4 Entrances.** *Entrances* shall be provided in accordance with F206.4. *Entrance* doors, doorways, and gates shall comply with 404 and shall be on an *accessible* route complying with 402.

**EXCEPTIONS:** 1. Where an *alteration* includes *alterations* to an *entrance*, and the *building* or *facility* has another *entrance* complying with 404 that is on an *accessible* route, the *altered entrance* shall not be required to comply with F206.4 unless required by F202.4.

2. Where exceptions for *alterations* to *qualified historic buildings or facilities* are permitted by F202.5, no more than one *public entrance* shall be required to comply with F206.4. Where no *public entrance* can comply with F206.4 under criteria established in F202.5 Exception, then either an unlocked *entrance* not used by the public shall comply with F206.4; or a locked *entrance* complying with F206.4 with a notification system or remote monitoring shall be provided.

**F206.4.1 Public Entrances.** In addition to *entrances* required by F206.4.2 through F206.4.9, at least 60 percent of all *public entrances* shall comply with 404.

**F206.4.2 Parking Structure Entrances.** Where direct access is provided for pedestrians from a parking structure to a *building* or *facility entrance*, each direct access to the *building* or *facility entrance* shall comply with 404.

**F206.4.3 Entrances from Tunnels or Elevated Walkways.** Where direct access is provided for pedestrians from a pedestrian tunnel or elevated walkway to a *building* or *facility*, at least one direct *entrance* to the *building* or *facility* from each tunnel or walkway shall comply with 404.

**F206.4.4 Transportation Facilities.** In addition to the requirements of F206.4.2, F206.4.3, and F206.4.5 through F206.4.9, transportation *facilities* shall provide *entrances* in accordance with F206.4.4.

**F206.4.4.1 Location.** In transportation *facilities*, where different *entrances* serve different transportation fixed routes or groups of fixed routes, at least one *public entrance* shall comply with 404.

**F206.4.4.2 Direct Connections.** Direct connections to other *facilities* shall provide an *accessible* route complying with 404 from the point of connection to boarding platforms and all transportation system *elements* required to be *accessible*. Any *elements* provided to facilitate future direct connections shall be on an *accessible* route connecting boarding platforms and all transportation system *elements* required to be *accessible*.

**F206.4.5 Tenant Spaces.** At least one *accessible entrance* to each tenancy in a *facility* shall comply with 404.

**EXCEPTION:** *Self-service storage* facilities not required to comply with F225.3 shall not be required to be on an *accessible route*.

**F206.4.6 Residential Dwelling Unit Primary Entrance.** In *residential dwelling units*, at least one primary *entrance* shall comply with 404. The primary *entrance* to a *residential dwelling unit* shall not be to a bedroom.

**F206.4.7 Restricted Entrances.** Where *restricted entrances* are provided to a *building* or *facility*, at least one *restricted entrance* to the *building* or *facility* shall comply with 404.

**F206.4.8 Service Entrances.** If a *service entrance* is the only *entrance* to a *building* or to a tenancy in a *facility*, that *entrance* shall comply with 404.

**F206.4.9 Entrances for Inmates or Detainees.** Where *entrances* used only by inmates or detainees and security personnel are provided at judicial *facilities*, detention *facilities*, or correctional *facilities*, at least one such *entrance* shall comply with 404.

**F206.5 Doors, Doorways, and Gates.** Doors, doorways, and gates providing user passage shall be provided in accordance with F206.5.

**F206.5.1 Entrances.** Each *entrance* to a *building* or *facility* required to comply with F206.4 shall have at least one door, doorway, or gate complying with 404.

**F206.5.2 Rooms and Spaces.** Within a *building* or *facility*, at least one door, doorway, or gate serving each room or *space* complying with these requirements shall comply with 404.

**F206.5.3 Transient Lodging Facilities.** In *transient lodging facilities*, *entrances*, doors, and doorways providing user passage into and within guest rooms that are not required to provide mobility features complying with 806.2 shall comply with 404.2.3.

**EXCEPTION:** Shower and sauna doors in guest rooms that are not required to provide mobility features complying with 806.2 shall not be required to comply with 404.2.3.

**F206.5.4 Residential Dwelling Units.** In *residential dwelling units* required to provide mobility features complying with 809.2 through 809.4, all doors and doorways providing user passage shall comply with 404.

**F206.6 Elevators.** Elevators provided for passengers shall comply with 407. Where multiple elevators are provided, each elevator shall comply with 407.

**EXCEPTIONS:** 1. In a *building* or *facility* permitted to use the exceptions to F206.2.3 or permitted by F206.7 to use a platform lift, elevators complying with 408 shall be permitted.

2. Elevators complying with 408 or 409 shall be permitted in multi-story *residential dwelling units*.

**F206.6.1 Existing Elevators.** Where *elements* of existing elevators are *altered*, the same *element* shall also be *altered* in all elevators that are programmed to respond to the same hall call control as the *altered* elevator and shall comply with the requirements of 407 for the *altered element*.

**F206.7 Platform Lifts.** Platform lifts shall comply with 410. Platform lifts shall be permitted as a component of an *accessible* route in new construction in accordance with F206.7. Platform lifts shall be permitted as a component of an *accessible* route in an existing *building* or *facility*.

**F206.7.1 Performance Areas and Speakers' Platforms.** Platform lifts shall be permitted to provide *accessible* routes to performance areas and speakers' platforms.

**F206.7.2 Wheelchair Spaces.** Platform lifts shall be permitted to provide an *accessible* route to comply with the *wheelchair space* dispersion and line-of-sight requirements of F221 and 802.

**F206.7.3 Incidental Spaces.** Platform lifts shall be permitted to provide an *accessible* route to incidental *spaces* which are not *public use spaces* and which are occupied by five persons maximum.

**F206.7.4 Judicial Spaces.** Platform lifts shall be permitted to provide an *accessible* route to: jury boxes and witness stands; raised courtroom stations including, judges' benches, clerks' stations, bailiffs' stations, deputy clerks' stations, and court reporters' stations; and to depressed areas such as the well of a court.

**F206.7.5 Existing Site Constraints.** Platform lifts shall be permitted where existing exterior *site* constraints make use of a *ramp* or elevator infeasible.

**Advisory F206.7.5 Existing Site Constraints.** This exception applies where topography or other similar existing site constraints necessitate the use of a platform lift as the only feasible alternative. While the site constraint must reflect exterior conditions, the lift can be installed in the interior of a building. For example, a new building constructed between and connected to two existing buildings may have insufficient space to coordinate floor levels and also to provide ramped entry from the public way. In this example, an exterior or interior platform lift could be used to provide an accessible entrance or to coordinate one or more interior floor levels.

**F206.7.6 Guest Rooms and Residential Dwelling Units.** Platform lifts shall be permitted to connect levels within *transient lodging* guest rooms required to provide mobility features complying with 806.2 or *residential dwelling units* required to provide mobility features complying with 809.2 through 809.4.

**F206.7.7 Amusement Rides.** Platform lifts shall be permitted to provide *accessible* routes to load and unload areas serving *amusement rides*.

**F206.7.8 Play Areas.** Platform lifts shall be permitted to provide *accessible* routes to *play components* or *soft contained play structures*.

**F206.7.9 Team or Player Seating.** Platform lifts shall be permitted to provide *accessible* routes to team or player seating areas serving *areas of sport activity*.

**Advisory F206.7.9 Team or Player Seating.** While the use of platform lifts is allowed, ramps are recommended to provide access to player seating areas serving an area of sport activity.

**F206.7.10 Recreational Boating Facilities and Fishing Piers and Platforms.** Platform lifts shall be permitted to be used instead of *gangways* that are part of *accessible* routes serving recreational boating *facilities* and fishing piers and platforms.

**F206.8 Security Barriers.** Security barriers, including but not limited to, security bollards and security check points, shall not obstruct a required *accessible* route or *accessible means of egress*.

**EXCEPTION:** Where security barriers incorporate *elements* that cannot comply with these requirements such as certain metal detectors, fluoroscopes, or other similar devices, the *accessible* route shall be permitted to be located adjacent to security screening devices. The *accessible* route shall permit persons with disabilities passing around security barriers to maintain visual contact with their personal items to the same extent provided others passing through the security barrier.

## **F207 Accessible Means of Egress**

**F207.1 General.** Means of egress shall comply with section 1003.2.13 of the International Building Code (2000 edition and 2001 Supplement) or section 1007 of the International Building Code (2003 edition) (incorporated by reference, see “Referenced Standards” in Chapter 1).

**EXCEPTIONS:** 1. Where means of egress are permitted by local *building* or life safety codes to share a common path of egress travel, *accessible means of egress* shall be permitted to share a common path of egress travel.

2. Areas of refuge shall not be required in detention and correctional *facilities*.

**F207.2 Platform Lifts.** Standby power shall be provided for platform lifts permitted by section 1003.2.13.4 of the International Building Code (2000 edition and 2001 Supplement) or section 1007.5 of the International Building Code (2003 edition) (incorporated by reference, see “Referenced Standards” in Chapter 1) to serve as a part of an *accessible means of egress*.

## **F208 Parking Spaces**

**F208.1 General.** Where parking *spaces* are provided, parking *spaces* shall be provided in accordance with F208.

**EXCEPTION:** Parking *spaces* used exclusively for buses, trucks, other delivery vehicles, law enforcement vehicles, or vehicular impound shall not be required to comply with F208 provided that lots accessed by the public are provided with a passenger loading zone complying with 503.

**F208.2 Minimum Number.** Parking *spaces* complying with 502 shall be provided in accordance with Table F208.2 except as required by F208.2.1, F208.2.2, and F208.2.3. Where more than one parking *facility* is provided on a *site*, the number of *accessible spaces* provided on the *site* shall be calculated according to the number of *spaces* required for each parking *facility*.

Table F208.2 Parking Spaces

Total Number of Parking Spaces Provided in Parking Facility	Minimum Number of Required Accessible Parking Spaces
1 to 25	1
26 to 50	2
51 to 75	3
76 to 100	4
101 to 150	5
151 to 200	6
201 to 300	7
301 to 400	8
401 to 500	9
501 to 1000	2 percent of total
1001 and over	20, plus 1 for each 100, or fraction thereof, over 1000

**Advisory F208.2 Minimum Number.** The term “parking facility” is used Section F208.2 instead of the term “parking lot” so that it is clear that both parking lots and parking structures are required to comply with this section. The number of parking spaces required to be accessible is to be calculated separately for each parking facility; the required number is not to be based on the total number of parking spaces provided in all of the parking facilities provided on the site.

**F208.2.1 Hospital Outpatient Facilities.** Ten percent of patient and visitor parking spaces provided to serve hospital outpatient facilities shall comply with 502.

**Advisory F208.2.1 Hospital Outpatient Facilities.** The term “outpatient facility” is not defined in this document but is intended to cover facilities or units that are located in hospitals and that provide regular and continuing medical treatment without an overnight stay. Doctors’ offices, independent clinics, or other facilities not located in hospitals are not considered hospital outpatient facilities for purposes of this document.

**F208.2.2 Rehabilitation Facilities and Outpatient Physical Therapy Facilities.** Twenty percent of patient and visitor parking spaces provided to serve rehabilitation facilities specializing in treating conditions that affect mobility and outpatient physical therapy facilities shall comply with 502.

**Advisory F208.2.2 Rehabilitation Facilities and Outpatient Physical Therapy Facilities.**

Conditions that affect mobility include conditions requiring the use or assistance of a brace, cane, crutch, prosthetic device, wheelchair, or powered mobility aid; arthritic, neurological, or orthopedic conditions that severely limit one's ability to walk; respiratory diseases and other conditions which may require the use of portable oxygen; and cardiac conditions that impose significant functional limitations.

**F208.2.3 Residential Facilities.** Parking *spaces* provided to serve residential facilities shall comply with F208.2.3.

**F208.2.3.1 Parking for Residents.** Where at least one parking *space* is provided for each *residential dwelling unit*, at least one parking *space* complying with 502 shall be provided for each *residential dwelling unit* required to provide mobility features complying with 809.2 through 809.4.

**F208.2.3.2 Additional Parking Spaces for Residents.** Where the total number of parking *spaces* provided for each *residential dwelling unit* exceeds one parking *space* per *residential dwelling unit*, 2 percent, but no fewer than one *space*, of all the parking *spaces* not covered by F208.2.3.1 shall comply with 502.

**F208.2.3.3 Parking for Guests, Employees, and Other Non-Residents.** Where parking spaces are provided for persons other than residents, parking shall be provided in accordance with Table F208.2.

**F208.2.4 Van Parking Spaces.** For every six or fraction of six parking *spaces* required by F208.2 to comply with 502, at least one shall be a van parking *space* complying with 502.

**F208.3 Location.** Parking *facilities* shall comply with F208.3

**F208.3.1 General.** Parking *spaces* complying with 502 that serve a particular *building* or *facility* shall be located on the shortest *accessible* route from parking to an *entrance* complying with F206.4. Where parking serves more than one *accessible entrance*, parking *spaces* complying with 502 shall be dispersed and located on the shortest *accessible* route to the *accessible entrances*. In parking *facilities* that do not serve a particular *building* or *facility*, parking *spaces* complying with 502 shall be located on the shortest *accessible* route to an *accessible* pedestrian *entrance* of the parking *facility*.

**EXCEPTIONS:** 1. All van parking *spaces* shall be permitted to be grouped on one level within a multi-story parking *facility*.

2. Parking *spaces* shall be permitted to be located in different parking *facilities* if substantially equivalent or greater *accessibility* is provided in terms of distance from an *accessible entrance* or *entrances*, parking fee, and user convenience.

**Advisory F208.3.1 General Exception 2.** Factors that could affect “user convenience” include, but are not limited to, protection from the weather, security, lighting, and comparative maintenance of the alternative parking site.

**F208.3.2 Residential Facilities.** In residential *facilities* containing *residential dwelling units* required to provide mobility features complying with 809.2 through 809.4, parking *spaces* provided in accordance with F208.2.3.1 shall be located on the shortest *accessible* route to the *residential dwelling unit entrance* they serve. *Spaces* provided in accordance with F208.2.3.2 shall be dispersed throughout all types of parking provided for the *residential dwelling units*.

**EXCEPTION:** Parking *spaces* provided in accordance with F208.2.3.2 shall not be required to be dispersed throughout all types of parking if substantially equivalent or greater *accessibility* is provided in terms of distance from an *accessible entrance*, parking fee, and user convenience.

**Advisory F208.3.2 Residential Facilities Exception.** Factors that could affect “user convenience” include, but are not limited to, protection from the weather, security, lighting, and comparative maintenance of the alternative parking site.

## **F209 Passenger Loading Zones and Bus Stops**

**F209.1 General.** Passenger loading zones shall be provided in accordance with F209.

**F209.2 Type.** Where provided, passenger loading zones shall comply with F209.2.

**F209.2.1 Passenger Loading Zones.** Passenger loading zones, except those required to comply with F209.2.2 and F209.2.3, shall provide at least one passenger loading zone complying with 503 in every continuous 100 linear feet (30 m) of loading zone *space*, or fraction thereof.

**F209.2.2 Bus Loading Zones.** In bus loading zones restricted to use by designated or specified public transportation vehicles, each bus bay, bus stop, or other area designated for lift or *ramp* deployment shall comply with 810.2.

**Advisory F209.2.2 Bus Loading Zones.** The terms “designated public transportation” and “specified public transportation” are defined by the Department of Transportation at 49 CFR 37.3 in regulations implementing the Americans with Disabilities Act. These terms refer to public transportation services provided by public or private entities, respectively. For example, designated public transportation vehicles include buses and vans operated by public transit agencies, while specified public transportation vehicles include tour and charter buses, taxis and limousines, and hotel shuttles operated by private entities.

**F209.2.3 On-Street Bus Stops.** On-street bus stops shall comply with 810.2 to the maximum extent practicable.

**F209.3 Medical Care and Long-Term Care Facilities.** At least one passenger loading zone complying with 503 shall be provided at an *accessible entrance* to licensed medical care and licensed long-term care *facilities* where the period of stay exceeds twenty-four hours.

**F209.4 Valet Parking.** Parking *facilities* that provide valet parking services shall provide at least one passenger loading zone complying with 503.

**F209.5 Mechanical Access Parking Garages.** Mechanical access parking garages shall provide at least one passenger loading zone complying with 503 at vehicle drop-off and vehicle pick-up areas.

## **F210 Stairways**

**F210.1 General.** Interior and exterior stairs that are part of a means of egress shall comply with 504.

**EXCEPTIONS:** 1. In detention and correctional *facilities*, stairs that are not located in *public use* areas shall not be required to comply with 504.

2. In *alterations*, stairs between levels that are connected by an *accessible* route shall not be required to comply with 504, except that handrails complying with 505 shall be provided when the stairs are *altered*.

3. In *assembly areas*, aisle stairs shall not be required to comply with 504.

4. Stairs that connect *play components* shall not be required to comply with 504.

**Advisory F210.1 General.** Although these requirements do not mandate handrails on stairs that are not part of a means of egress, State or local building codes may require handrails or guards.

## **F211 Drinking Fountains**

**F211.1 General.** Where drinking fountains are provided on an exterior *site*, on a floor, and within a secured area they shall be provided in accordance with F211.

**EXCEPTION:** In detention or correctional *facilities*, drinking fountains only serving holding or housing cells not required to comply with F232 shall not be required to comply with F211.

**F211.2 Minimum Number.** No fewer than two drinking fountains shall be provided. One drinking fountain shall comply with 602.1 through 602.6 and one drinking fountain shall comply with 602.7.

**EXCEPTION:** Where a single drinking fountain complies with 602.1 through 602.6 and 602.7, it shall be permitted to be substituted for two separate drinking fountains.

**F211.3 More Than Minimum Number.** Where more than the minimum number of drinking fountains specified in F211.2 are provided, 50 percent of the total number of drinking fountains provided shall comply with 602.1 through 602.6, and 50 percent of the total number of drinking fountains provided shall comply with 602.7.

**EXCEPTION:** Where 50 percent of the drinking fountains yields a fraction, 50 percent shall be permitted to be rounded up or down provided that the total number of drinking fountains complying with F211 equals 100 percent of drinking fountains.

## **F212 Kitchens, Kitchenettes, and Sinks**

**F212.1 General.** Where provided, kitchens, kitchenettes, and sinks shall comply with F212.

**F212.2 Kitchens and Kitchenettes.** Kitchens and kitchenettes shall comply with 804.

**F212.3 Sinks.** Where sinks are provided, at least 5 percent, but no fewer than one, of each type provided in each *accessible* room or *space* shall comply with 606.



**EXCEPTION:** Mop or service sinks shall not be required to comply with F212.3.

## **F213 Toilet Facilities and Bathing Facilities**

**F213.1 General.** Where toilet *facilities* and bathing *facilities* are provided, they shall comply with F213. Where toilet *facilities* and bathing *facilities* are provided in *facilities* permitted by F206.2.3 Exceptions 1 and 2 not to connect *stories* by an *accessible* route, toilet *facilities* and bathing *facilities* shall be provided on a *story* connected by an *accessible* route to an *accessible entrance*.

**F213.2 Toilet Rooms and Bathing Rooms.** Where toilet rooms are provided, each toilet room shall comply with 603. Where bathing rooms are provided, each bathing room shall comply with 603.

**EXCEPTIONS:** 1. In *alterations* where it is *technically infeasible* to comply with 603, *altering* existing toilet or bathing rooms shall not be required where a single unisex toilet room or bathing room complying with F213.2.1 is provided and located in the same area and on the same floor as existing inaccessible toilet or bathing rooms.

2. Where exceptions for *alterations* to *qualified historic buildings or facilities* are permitted by F202.5 and toilet rooms are provided, no fewer than one toilet room for each sex complying with 603 or one unisex toilet room complying with F213.2.1 shall be provided.

3. Where multiple single user portable toilet or bathing units are clustered at a single location, no more than 5 percent of the toilet units and bathing units at each cluster shall be required to comply with 603. Portable toilet units and bathing units complying with 603 shall be identified by the International Symbol of *Accessibility* complying with 703.7.2.1.

4. Where multiple single user toilet rooms are clustered at a single location, no more than 50 percent of the single user toilet rooms for each use at each cluster shall be required to comply with 603.

**Advisory F213.2 Toilet Rooms and Bathing Rooms.** These requirements allow the use of unisex (or single-user) toilet rooms in alterations when technical infeasibility can be demonstrated. Unisex toilet rooms benefit people who use opposite sex personal care assistants. For this reason, it is advantageous to install unisex toilet rooms in addition to accessible single-sex toilet rooms in new facilities.

**Advisory F213.2 Toilet Rooms and Bathing Rooms Exceptions 3 and 4.** A “cluster” is a group of toilet rooms proximate to one another. Generally, toilet rooms in a cluster are within sight of, or adjacent to, one another.

**F213.2.1 Unisex (Single-Use or Family) Toilet and Bathing Rooms.** Unisex toilet rooms shall contain not more than one lavatory, and two water closets without urinals or one water closet and one urinal. Unisex bathing rooms shall contain one shower or one shower and one bathtub, one lavatory, and one water closet. Doors to unisex toilet rooms and unisex bathing rooms shall have privacy latches.

**F213.3 Plumbing Fixtures and Accessories.** Plumbing fixtures and accessories provided in a toilet room or bathing room required to comply with F213.2 shall comply with F213.3.

**F213.3.1 Toilet Compartments.** Where toilet compartments are provided, at least one toilet compartment shall comply with 604.8.1. In addition to the compartment required to comply with

604.8.1, at least one compartment shall comply with 604.8.2 where six or more toilet compartments are provided, or where the combination of urinals and water closets totals six or more fixtures.

**Advisory F213.3.1 Toilet Compartments.** A toilet compartment is a partitioned space that is located within a toilet room, and that normally contains no more than one water closet. A toilet compartment may also contain a lavatory. A lavatory is a sink provided for hand washing. Full-height partitions and door assemblies can comprise toilet compartments where the minimum required spaces are provided within the compartment.

**F213.3.2 Water Closets.** Where water closets are provided at least one shall comply with 604.

**F213.3.3 Urinals.** Where more than one urinal is provided, at least one shall comply with 605.

**F213.3.4 Lavatories.** Where lavatories are provided, at least one shall comply with 606 and shall not be located in a toilet compartment.

**F213.3.5 Mirrors.** Where mirrors are provided, at least one shall comply with 603.3.

**F213.3.6 Bathing Facilities.** Where bathtubs or showers are provided, at least one bathtub complying with 607 or at least one shower complying with 608 shall be provided.

**F213.3.7 Coat Hooks and Shelves.** Where coat hooks or shelves are provided in toilet rooms without toilet compartments, at least one of each type shall comply with 603.4. Where coat hooks or shelves are provided in toilet compartments, at least one of each type complying with 604.8.3 shall be provided in toilet compartments required to comply with F213.3.1. Where coat hooks or shelves are provided in bathing *facilities*, at least one of each type complying with 603.4 shall serve fixtures required to comply with F213.3.6.

## **F214 Washing Machines and Clothes Dryers**

**F214.1 General.** Where provided, washing machines and clothes dryers shall comply with F214.

**EXCEPTION:** Washing machines and clothes dryers provided in *employee work areas* shall not be required to comply with F214.

**Advisory F214.1 General Exception.** Washers and dryers provided for use by employees during non-work hours are not considered to be provided in employee work areas. For example, if trainees are housed in a dormitory and provided access to washers and dryers, those facilities are not considered part of the employee work area. Examples of washing machines and clothes dryers provided in employee work areas include, but are not limited to, employee only laundries in hospitals, hotels, and prisons.

**F214.2 Washing Machines.** Where three or fewer washing machines are provided, at least one shall comply with 611. Where more than three washing machines are provided, at least two shall comply with 611.

**F214.3 Clothes Dryers.** Where three or fewer clothes dryers are provided, at least one shall comply with 611. Where more than three clothes dryers are provided, at least two shall comply with 611.

## **F215 Fire Alarm Systems**

**F215.1 General.** Where fire alarm systems provide audible alarm coverage, alarms shall comply with F215.

**EXCEPTION:** In existing *facilities*, visible alarms shall not be required except where an existing fire alarm system is upgraded or replaced, or a new fire alarm system is installed.

**Advisory F215.1 General.** Unlike audible alarms, visible alarms must be located within the space they serve so that the signal is visible. Facility alarm systems (other than fire alarm systems) such as those used for tornado warnings and other emergencies are not required to comply with the technical criteria for alarms in Section 702. Every effort should be made to ensure that such alarms can be differentiated in their signal from fire alarms systems and that people who need to be notified of emergencies are adequately safeguarded. Consult local fire departments and prepare evacuation plans taking into consideration the needs of every building occupant, including people with disabilities.

**F215.2 Public and Common Use Areas.** Alarms in *public use areas* and *common use areas* shall comply with 702.

**F215.3 Employee Work Areas.** Where *employee work areas* have audible alarm coverage, the wiring system shall be designed so that visible alarms complying with 702 can be integrated into the alarm system.

**F215.4 Transient Lodging.** Guest rooms required to comply with F224.4 shall provide alarms complying with 702.

**F215.5 Residential Facilities.** Where provided in *residential dwelling units* required to comply with 809.5, alarms shall comply with 702.

## **F216 Signs**

**F216.1 General.** Signs shall be provided in accordance with F216 and shall comply with 703.

**EXCEPTIONS:** 1. *Building* directories, menus, seat and row designations in *assembly areas*, occupant names, *building* addresses, and company names and logos shall not be required to comply with F216.

2. In parking *facilities*, signs shall not be required to comply with F216.2, F216.3, and F216.6 through F216.12.

3. Temporary, 7 days or less, signs shall not be required to comply with F216.

4. In detention and correctional *facilities*, signs not located in *public use areas* shall not be required to comply with F216.

**F216.2 Designations.** Interior and exterior signs identifying permanent rooms and *spaces* shall comply with 703.1, 703.2, and 703.5. Where *pictograms* are provided as designations of permanent interior

rooms and *spaces*, the *pictograms* shall comply with 703.6 and shall have text descriptors complying with 703.2 and 703.5.

**EXCEPTION:** Exterior signs that are not located at the door to the *space* they serve shall not be required to comply with 703.2.

**Advisory F216.2 Designations.** Section F216.2 applies to signs that provide designations, labels, or names for interior rooms or spaces where the sign is not likely to change over time. Examples include interior signs labeling restrooms, room and floor numbers or letters, and room names. Tactile text descriptors are required for pictograms that are provided to label or identify a permanent room or space. Pictograms that provide information about a room or space, such as “no smoking,” occupant logos, and the International Symbol of Accessibility, are not required to have text descriptors.

**F216.3 Directional and Informational Signs.** Signs that provide direction to or information about interior *spaces* and *facilities* of the *site* shall comply with 703.5.

**Advisory F216.3 Directional and Informational Signs.** Information about interior spaces and facilities includes rules of conduct, occupant load, and similar signs. Signs providing direction to rooms or spaces include those that identify egress routes.

**F216.4 Means of Egress.** Signs for means of egress shall comply with F216.4.

**F216.4.1 Exit Doors.** Doors at exit passageways, exit discharge, and exit stairways shall be identified by *tactile* signs complying with 703.1, 703.2, and 703.5.

**Advisory F216.4.1 Exit Doors.** An exit passageway is a horizontal exit component that is separated from the interior spaces of the building by fire-resistance-rated construction and that leads to the exit discharge or public way. The exit discharge is that portion of an egress system between the termination of an exit and a public way.

**F216.4.2 Areas of Refuge.** Signs required by section 1003.2.13.5.4 of the International Building Code (2000 edition) or section 1007.6.4 of the International Building Code (2003 edition) (incorporated by reference, see “Referenced Standards” in Chapter 1) to provide instructions in areas of refuge shall comply with 703.5.

**F216.4.3 Directional Signs.** Signs required by section 1003.2.13.6 of the International Building Code (2000 edition) or section 1007.7 of the International Building Code (2003 edition) (incorporated by reference, see “Referenced Standards” in Chapter 1) to provide directions to *accessible means of egress* shall comply with 703.5.

**F216.5 Parking.** Parking *spaces* complying with 502 shall be identified by signs complying with 502.6.

**EXCEPTIONS:** 1. Where a total of four or fewer parking *spaces*, including *accessible* parking *spaces*, are provided on a *site*, identification of *accessible* parking *spaces* shall not be required.

2. In residential *facilities*, where parking *spaces* are assigned to specific *residential dwelling units*, identification of *accessible* parking *spaces* shall not be required.

**F216.6 Entrances.** Where not all *entrances* comply with 404, *entrances* complying with 404 shall be identified by the International Symbol of *Accessibility* complying with 703.7.2.1. Directional signs complying with 703.5 that indicate the location of the nearest *entrance* complying with 404 shall be provided at *entrances* that do not comply with 404.

**Advisory F216.6 Entrances.** Where a directional sign is required, it should be located to minimize backtracking. In some cases, this could mean locating a sign at the beginning of a route, not just at the inaccessible entrances to a building.

**F216.7 Elevators.** Where existing elevators do not comply with 407, elevators complying with 407 shall be clearly identified with the International Symbol of *Accessibility* complying with 703.7.2.1.

**F216.8 Toilet Rooms and Bathing Rooms.** Where existing toilet rooms or bathing rooms do not comply with 603, directional signs indicating the location of the nearest toilet room or bathing room complying with 603 within the *facility* shall be provided. Signs shall comply with 703.5 and shall include the International Symbol of *Accessibility* complying with 703.7.2.1. Where existing toilet rooms or bathing rooms do not comply with 603, the toilet rooms or bathing rooms complying with 603 shall be identified by the International Symbol of *Accessibility* complying with 703.7.2.1. Where clustered single user toilet rooms or bathing *facilities* are permitted to use exception to F213.2, toilet rooms or bathing *facilities* complying with 603 shall be identified by the International Symbol of *Accessibility* complying with 703.7.2.1 unless all toilet rooms and bathing *facilities* comply with 603.

**F216.9 TTYs.** Identification and directional signs for public *TTYs* shall be provided in accordance with F216.9.

**F216.9.1 Identification Signs.** Public *TTYs* shall be identified by the International Symbol of *TTY* complying with 703.7.2.2.

**F216.9.2 Directional Signs.** Directional signs indicating the location of the nearest public *TTY* shall be provided at all banks of public pay telephones not containing a public *TTY*. In addition, where signs provide direction to public pay telephones, they shall also provide direction to public *TTYs*. Directional signs shall comply with 703.5 and shall include the International Symbol of *TTY* complying with 703.7.2.2.

**F216.10 Assistive Listening Systems.** Each *assembly area* required by F219 to provide *assistive listening systems* shall provide signs informing patrons of the availability of the *assistive listening system*. Assistive listening signs shall comply with 703.5 and shall include the International Symbol of Access for Hearing Loss complying with 703.7.2.4.

**EXCEPTION:** Where ticket offices or windows are provided, signs shall not be required at each *assembly area* provided that signs are displayed at each ticket office or window informing patrons of the availability of *assistive listening systems*.

**F216.11 Check-Out Aisles.** Where more than one check-out aisle is provided, check-out aisles complying with 904.3 shall be identified by the International Symbol of *Accessibility* complying with 703.7.2.1. Where check-out aisles are identified by numbers, letters, or functions, signs identifying

check-out aisles complying with 904.3 shall be located in the same location as the check-out aisle identification.

**EXCEPTION:** Where all check-out aisles serving a single function comply with 904.3, signs complying with 703.7.2.1 shall not be required.

**F216.12 Amusement Rides.** Signs identifying the type of access provided on *amusement rides* shall be provided at entries to queues and waiting lines. In addition, where *accessible* unload areas also serve as *accessible* load areas, signs indicating the location of the *accessible* load and unload areas shall be provided at entries to queues and waiting lines.

**Advisory F216.12 Amusement Rides.** Amusement rides designed primarily for children, amusement rides that are controlled or operated by the rider, and amusement rides without seats, are not required to provide wheelchair spaces, transfer seats, or transfer systems, and need not meet the sign requirements in 216.12. The load and unload areas of these rides must, however, be on an accessible route and must provide turning space.

## F217 Telephones

**F217.1 General.** Where coin-operated public pay telephones, coinless public pay telephones, public *closed-circuit telephones*, public courtesy phones, or other types of public telephones are provided, public telephones shall be provided in accordance with F217 for each type of public telephone provided. For purposes of this section, a bank of telephones shall be considered to be two or more adjacent telephones.

**Advisory F217.1 General.** These requirements apply to all types of public telephones including courtesy phones at airports and rail stations that provide a free direct connection to hotels, transportation services, and tourist attractions.

**F217.2 Wheelchair Accessible Telephones.** Where public telephones are provided, wheelchair *accessible* telephones complying with 704.2 shall be provided in accordance with Table F217.2.

**EXCEPTION:** Drive-up only public telephones shall not be required to comply with F217.2.

**Table F217.2 Wheelchair Accessible Telephones**

Number of Telephones Provided on a Floor, Level, or Exterior Site	Minimum Number of Required Wheelchair Accessible Telephones
1 or more single units	1 per floor, level, and exterior <i>site</i>
1 bank	1 per floor, level, and exterior <i>site</i>
2 or more banks	1 per bank

**F217.3 Volume Controls.** All public telephones shall have volume controls complying with 704.3.

**F217.4 TTYs.** TTYs complying with 704.4 shall be provided in accordance with F217.4.

**Advisory F217.4 TTYs.** Separate requirements are provided based on the number of public pay telephones provided at a bank of telephones, within a floor, a building, or on a site. In some instances one TTY can be used to satisfy more than one of these requirements. For example, a TTY required for a bank can satisfy the requirements for a building. However, the requirement for at least one TTY on an exterior site cannot be met by installing a TTY in a bank inside a building. Consideration should be given to phone systems that can accommodate both digital and analog transmissions for compatibility with digital and analog TTYs.

**F217.4.1 Bank Requirement.** Where four or more public pay telephones are provided at a bank of telephones, at least one public *TTY* complying with 704.4 shall be provided at that bank.

**EXCEPTION:** *TTYs* shall not be required at banks of telephones located within 200 feet (61 m) of, and on the same floor as, a bank containing a public *TTY*.

**F217.4.2 Floor Requirement.** Where at least one public pay telephone is provided on a floor of a *building*, at least one public *TTY* shall be provided on that floor.

**F217.4.3 Building Requirement.** Where at least one public pay telephone is provided in a *public use area* of a *building*, at least one public *TTY* shall be provided in the *building* in a *public use area*.

**F217.4.4 Exterior Site Requirement.** Where four or more public pay telephones are provided on an exterior *site*, at least one public *TTY* shall be provided on the *site*.

**F217.4.5 Rest Stops, Emergency Roadside Stops, and Service Plazas.** Where at least one public pay telephone is provided at a public rest stop, emergency roadside stop, or service plaza, at least one public *TTY* shall be provided.

**F217.4.6 Hospitals.** Where at least one public pay telephone is provided serving a hospital emergency room, hospital recovery room, or hospital waiting room, at least one public *TTY* shall be provided at each location.

**F217.4.7 Transportation Facilities.** In transportation *facilities*, in addition to the requirements of F217.4.1 through F217.4.4, where at least one public pay telephone serves a particular *entrance* to a bus or rail *facility*, at least one public *TTY* shall be provided to serve that *entrance*. In airports, in addition to the requirements of F217.4.1 through F217.4.4, where four or more public pay telephones are located in a terminal outside the security areas, a concourse within the security areas, or a baggage claim area in a terminal, at least one public *TTY* shall be provided in each location.

**F217.4.8 Detention and Correctional Facilities.** In detention and correctional *facilities*, where at least one pay telephone is provided in a secured area used only by detainees or inmates and security personnel, at least one *TTY* shall be provided in at least one secured area.

**F217.5 Shelves for Portable TTYs.** Where a bank of telephones in the interior of a *building* consists of three or more public pay telephones, at least one public pay telephone at the bank shall be provided with a shelf and an electrical outlet in accordance with 704.5.

- EXCEPTIONS:** 1. Secured areas of detention and correctional *facilities* where shelves and outlets are prohibited for purposes of security or safety shall not be required to comply with F217.5.
2. The shelf and electrical outlet shall not be required at a bank of telephones with a *TTY*.

## **F218 Transportation Facilities**

**F218.1 General.** Transportation *facilities* shall comply with F218.

**F218.2 New and Altered Fixed Guideway Stations.** New and altered stations in rapid rail, light rail, commuter rail, intercity rail, high speed rail, and other fixed guideway systems shall comply with 810.5 through 810.10.

**F218.3 Bus Shelters.** Where provided, bus shelters shall comply with 810.3 and 810.4.

**F218.4 Other Transportation Facilities.** In other transportation *facilities*, public address systems shall comply with 810.7 and clocks shall comply with 810.8.

## **F219 Assistive Listening Systems**

**F219.1 General.** *Assistive listening systems* shall be provided in accordance with F219 and shall comply with 706.

**F219.2 Required Systems.** In each *assembly area* where audible communication is integral to the use of the *space*, an *assistive listening system* shall be provided.

**EXCEPTION:** Other than in courtrooms, *assistive listening systems* shall not be required where audio amplification is not provided.

**F219.3 Receivers.** Receivers complying with 706.2 shall be provided for *assistive listening systems* in each *assembly area* in accordance with Table F219.3. Twenty-five percent minimum of receivers provided, but no fewer than two, shall be hearing-aid compatible in accordance with 706.3.

**EXCEPTIONS:** 1. Where a *building* contains more than one *assembly area* and the *assembly areas* required to provide *assistive listening systems* are under one management, the total number of required receivers shall be permitted to be calculated according to the total number of seats in the *assembly areas* in the *building* provided that all receivers are usable with all systems.

2. Where all seats in an *assembly area* are served by an induction loop *assistive listening system*, the minimum number of receivers required by Table F219.3 to be hearing-aid compatible shall not be required to be provided.



**Table F219.3 Receivers for Assistive Listening Systems**

<b>Capacity of Seating in Assembly Area</b>	<b>Minimum Number of Required Receivers</b>	<b>Minimum Number of Required Receivers Required to be Hearing-aid Compatible</b>
50 or less	2	2
51 to 200	2, plus 1 per 25 seats over 50 seats <sup>1</sup>	2
201 to 500	2, plus 1 per 25 seats over 50 seats <sup>1</sup>	1 per 4 receivers <sup>1</sup>
501 to 1000	20, plus 1 per 33 seats over 500 seats <sup>1</sup>	1 per 4 receivers <sup>1</sup>
1001 to 2000	35, plus 1 per 50 seats over 1000 seats <sup>1</sup>	1 per 4 receivers <sup>1</sup>
2001 and over	55, plus 1 per 100 seats over 2000 seats <sup>1</sup>	1 per 4 receivers <sup>1</sup>

1. Or fraction thereof.

## **F220 Automatic Teller Machines and Fare Machines**

**F220.1 General.** Where automatic teller machines or self-service fare vending, collection, or adjustment machines are provided, at least one of each type provided at each location shall comply with 707. Where bins are provided for envelopes, waste paper, or other purposes, at least one of each type shall comply with 811.

**Advisory F220.1 General.** If a bank provides both interior and exterior ATMs, each such installation is considered a separate location. Accessible ATMs, including those with speech and those that are within reach of people who use wheelchairs, must provide all the functions provided to customers at that location at all times. For example, it is unacceptable for the accessible ATM only to provide cash withdrawals while inaccessible ATMs also sell theater tickets.

## **F221 Assembly Areas**

**F221.1 General.** *Assembly areas* shall provide *wheelchair spaces*, companion seats, and designated aisle seats complying with F221 and 802. In addition, lawn seating shall comply with F221.5.

**F221.2 Wheelchair Spaces.** *Wheelchair spaces* complying with F221.2 shall be provided in *assembly areas* with fixed seating.

**F221.2.1 Number and Location.** *Wheelchair spaces* shall be provided complying with F221.2.1.

**F221.2.1.1 General Seating.** *Wheelchair spaces* complying with 802.1 shall be provided in accordance with Table F221.2.1.1.

**Table F221.2.1.1 Number of Wheelchair Spaces in Assembly Areas**

Number of Seats	Minimum Number of Required Wheelchair Spaces
4 to 25	1
26 to 50	2
51 to 150	4
151 to 300	5
301 to 500	6
501 to 5000	6, plus 1 for each 150, or fraction thereof, between 501 through 5000
5001 and over	36, plus 1 for each 200, or fraction thereof, over 5000

**F221.2.1.2 Luxury Boxes, Club Boxes, and Suites in Arenas, Stadiums, and Grandstands.** In each luxury box, club box, and suite within arenas, stadiums, and grandstands, *wheelchair spaces* complying with 802.1 shall be provided in accordance with Table F221.2.1.1.

**Advisory F221.2.1.2 Luxury Boxes, Club Boxes, and Suites in Arenas, Stadiums, and Grandstands.** The number of wheelchair spaces required in luxury boxes, club boxes, and suites within an arena, stadium, or grandstand is to be calculated box by box and suite by suite.

**F221.2.1.3 Other Boxes.** In boxes other than those required to comply with F221.2.1.2, the total number of *wheelchair spaces* required shall be determined in accordance with Table F221.2.1.1. *Wheelchair spaces* shall be located in not less than 20 percent of all boxes provided. *Wheelchair spaces* shall comply with 802.1.

**Advisory F221.2.1.3 Other Boxes.** The provision for seating in “other boxes” includes box seating provided in facilities such as performing arts auditoria where tiered boxes are designed for spatial and acoustical purposes. The number of wheelchair spaces required in boxes covered by 221.2.1.3 is calculated based on the total number of seats provided in these other boxes. The resulting number of wheelchair spaces must be located in no fewer than 20% of the boxes covered by this section. For example, a concert hall has 20 boxes, each of which contains 10 seats, totaling 200 seats. In this example, 5 wheelchair spaces would be required, and they must be placed in at least 4 of the boxes. Additionally, because the wheelchair spaces must also meet the dispersion requirements of 221.2.3, the boxes containing these wheelchair spaces cannot all be located in one area unless an exception to the dispersion requirements applies.

**F221.2.1.4 Team or Player Seating.** At least one *wheelchair space* complying with 802.1 shall be provided in team or player seating areas serving *areas of sport activity*.

**EXCEPTION:** *Wheelchair spaces* shall not be required in team or player seating areas serving bowling lanes not required to comply with F206.2.10.

**F221.2.2 Integration.** *Wheelchair spaces* shall be an integral part of the seating plan.

**Advisory F221.2.2 Integration.** The requirement that wheelchair spaces be an “integral part of the seating plan” means that wheelchair spaces must be placed within the footprint of the seating area. Wheelchair spaces cannot be segregated from seating areas. For example, it would be unacceptable to place only the wheelchair spaces, or only the wheelchair spaces and their associated companion seats, outside the seating areas defined by risers in an assembly area.

**F221.2.3 Lines of Sight and Dispersion.** *Wheelchair spaces* shall provide lines of sight complying with 802.2 and shall comply with F221.2.3. In providing lines of sight, *wheelchair spaces* shall be dispersed. *Wheelchair spaces* shall provide spectators with choices of seating locations and viewing angles that are substantially equivalent to, or better than, the choices of seating locations and viewing angles available to all other spectators. When the number of *wheelchair spaces* required by F221.2.1 has been met, further dispersion shall not be required.

**EXCEPTION:** *Wheelchair spaces* in team or player seating areas serving *areas of sport activity* shall not be required to comply with F221.2.3.

**Advisory F221.2.3 Lines of Sight and Dispersion.** Consistent with the overall intent of the ADA, individuals who use wheelchairs must be provided equal access so that their experience is substantially equivalent to that of other members of the audience. Thus, while individuals who use wheelchairs need not be provided with the best seats in the house, neither may they be relegated to the worst.

**F221.2.3.1 Horizontal Dispersion.** *Wheelchair spaces* shall be dispersed horizontally.

**EXCEPTIONS:** 1. Horizontal dispersion shall not be required in *assembly areas* with 300 or fewer seats if the companion seats required by F221.3 and *wheelchair spaces* are located within the 2<sup>nd</sup> or 3<sup>rd</sup> quartile of the total row length. Intermediate aisles shall be included in

determining the total row length. If the row length in the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> quartile of a row is insufficient to accommodate the required number of companion seats and *wheelchair spaces*, the additional companion seats and *wheelchair spaces* shall be permitted to be located in the 1<sup>st</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> quartile of the row.

2. In row seating, two *wheelchair spaces* shall be permitted to be located side-by-side.

**Advisory F221.2.3.1 Horizontal Dispersion.** Horizontal dispersion of wheelchair spaces is the placement of spaces in an assembly facility seating area from side-to-side or, in the case of an arena or stadium, around the field of play or performance area.

**F221.2.3.2 Vertical Dispersion.** *Wheelchair spaces* shall be dispersed vertically at varying distances from the screen, performance area, or playing field. In addition, *wheelchair spaces* shall be located in each balcony or *mezzanine* that is located on an *accessible* route.

**EXCEPTIONS:** 1. Vertical dispersion shall not be required in *assembly areas* with 300 or fewer seats if the *wheelchair spaces* provide viewing angles that are equivalent to, or better than, the average viewing angle provided in the *facility*.

2. In bleachers, *wheelchair spaces* shall not be required to be provided in rows other than rows at points of entry to bleacher seating.

**Advisory F221.2.3.2 Vertical Dispersion.** When wheelchair spaces are dispersed vertically in an assembly facility they are placed at different locations within the seating area from front-to-back so that the distance from the screen, stage, playing field, area of sports activity, or other focal point is varied among wheelchair spaces.

**Advisory F221.2.3.2 Vertical Dispersion Exception 2.** Points of entry to bleacher seating may include, but are not limited to, cross aisles, concourses, vomitories, and entrance ramps and stairs. Vertical, center, or side aisles adjoining bleacher seating that are stepped or tiered are not considered entry points.

**F221.3 Companion Seats.** At least one companion seat complying with 802.3 shall be provided for each *wheelchair space* required by F221.2.1.

**F221.4 Designated Aisle Seats.** At least 5 percent of the total number of aisle seats provided shall comply with 802.4 and shall be the aisle seats located closest to *accessible* routes.

**EXCEPTION:** Team or player seating areas serving *areas of sport activity* shall not be required to comply with F221.4.

**Advisory F221.4 Designated Aisle Seats.** When selecting which aisle seats will meet the requirements of 802.4, those aisle seats which are closest to, not necessarily on, accessible routes must be selected first. For example, an assembly area has two aisles (A and B) serving seating areas with an accessible route connecting to the top and bottom of Aisle A only. The aisle seats chosen to meet 802.4 must be those at the top and bottom of Aisle A, working toward the middle. Only when all seats on Aisle A would not meet the five percent minimum would seats on Aisle B be designated.

**F221.5 Lawn Seating.** Lawn seating areas and exterior overflow seating areas, where fixed seats are not provided, shall connect to an *accessible* route.

## **F222 Dressing, Fitting, and Locker Rooms**

**F222.1 General.** Where dressing rooms, fitting rooms, or locker rooms are provided, at least 5 percent, but no fewer than one, of each type of use in each cluster provided shall comply with 803.

**EXCEPTION:** In *alterations*, where it is *technically infeasible* to provide rooms in accordance with F222.1, one room for each sex on each level shall comply with 803. Where only unisex rooms are provided, unisex rooms shall be permitted.

**Advisory F222.1 General.** A “cluster” is a group of rooms proximate to one another. Generally, rooms in a cluster are within sight of, or adjacent to, one another. Different styles of design provide users varying levels of privacy and convenience. Some designs include private changing facilities that are close to core areas of the facility, while other designs use space more economically and provide only group dressing facilities. Regardless of the type of facility, dressing, fitting, and locker rooms should provide people with disabilities rooms that are equally private and convenient to those provided others. For example, in a physician’s office, if people without disabilities must traverse the full length of the office suite in clothing other than their street clothes, it is acceptable for people with disabilities to be asked to do the same.

**F222.2 Coat Hooks and Shelves.** Where coat hooks or shelves are provided in dressing, fitting or locker rooms without individual compartments, at least one of each type shall comply with 803.5. Where coat hooks or shelves are provided in individual compartments at least one of each type complying with 803.5 shall be provided in individual compartments in dressing, fitting, or locker rooms required to comply with F222.1.

## **F223 Medical Care and Long-Term Care Facilities**

**F223.1 General.** In licensed medical care *facilities* and licensed long-term care *facilities* where the period of stay exceeds twenty-four hours, patient or resident sleeping rooms shall be provided in accordance with F223.

**EXCEPTION:** Toilet rooms that are part of critical or intensive care patient sleeping rooms shall not be required to comply with 603.

**Advisory F223.1 General.** Because medical facilities frequently reconfigure spaces to reflect changes in medical specialties, Section F223.1 does not include a provision for dispersion of accessible patient or resident sleeping rooms. The lack of a design requirement does not mean that covered entities are not required to provide services to people with disabilities where accessible rooms are not dispersed in specialty areas. Locate accessible rooms near core areas that are less likely to change over time. While dispersion is not required, the flexibility it provides can be a critical factor in ensuring cost effective compliance with applicable civil rights laws, including Sections 501 and 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended.

**Advisory F223.1 General (Continued).** Additionally, all types of features and amenities should be dispersed among accessible sleeping rooms to ensure equal access to and a variety of choices for all patients and residents.

**F223.1.1 Alterations.** Where sleeping rooms are *altered* or *added*, the requirements of F223 shall apply only to the sleeping rooms being *altered* or *added* until the number of sleeping rooms complies with the minimum number required for new construction.

**Advisory F223.1.1 Alterations.** In alterations and additions, the minimum required number is based on the total number of sleeping rooms altered or added instead of on the total number of sleeping rooms provided in a facility. As a facility is altered over time, every effort should be made to disperse accessible sleeping rooms among patient care areas such as pediatrics, cardiac care, maternity, and other units. In this way, people with disabilities can have access to the full-range of services provided by a medical care facility.

**F223.2 Hospitals, Rehabilitation Facilities, Psychiatric Facilities and Detoxification Facilities.** Hospitals, rehabilitation *facilities*, psychiatric *facilities* and detoxification *facilities* shall comply with F223.2.

**F223.2.1 Facilities Not Specializing in Treating Conditions That Affect Mobility.** In *facilities* not specializing in treating conditions that affect mobility, at least 10 percent, but no fewer than one, of the patient sleeping rooms shall provide mobility features complying with 805.

**F223.2.2 Facilities Specializing in Treating Conditions That Affect Mobility.** In *facilities* specializing in treating conditions that affect mobility, 100 percent of the patient sleeping rooms shall provide mobility features complying with 805.

**Advisory F223.2.2 Facilities Specializing in Treating Conditions That Affect Mobility.** Conditions that affect mobility include conditions requiring the use or assistance of a brace, cane, crutch, prosthetic device, wheelchair, or powered mobility aid; arthritic, neurological, or orthopedic conditions that severely limit one's ability to walk; respiratory diseases and other conditions which may require the use of portable oxygen; and cardiac conditions that impose significant functional limitations. Facilities that may provide treatment for, but that do not specialize in treatment of such conditions, such as general rehabilitation hospitals, are not subject to this requirement but are subject to Section F223.2.1.

**F223.3 Long-Term Care Facilities.** In licensed long-term care *facilities*, at least 50 percent, but no fewer than one, of each type of resident sleeping room shall provide mobility features complying with 805.

## **F224 Transient Lodging Guest Rooms**

**F224.1 General.** *Transient lodging facilities* shall provide guest rooms in accordance with F224.

**Advisory F224.1 General.** Certain facilities used for transient lodging including time shares, dormitories, and town homes may be covered by both these requirements and the Fair Housing Amendments Act. The Fair Housing Amendments Act requires that certain residential structures having four or more multi-family dwelling units, regardless of whether they are privately owned or federally assisted, include certain features of accessible and adaptable design according to guidelines established by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). This law and the appropriate regulations should be consulted before proceeding with the design and construction of residential housing.

**F224.1.1 Alterations.** Where guest rooms are *altered* or *added*, the requirements of F224 shall apply only to the guest rooms being *altered* or *added* until the number of guest rooms complies with the minimum number required for new construction.

**Advisory F224.1.1 Alterations.** In alterations and additions, the minimum required number of accessible guest rooms is based on the total number of guest rooms altered or added instead of the total number of guest rooms provided in a facility. Typically, each alteration of a facility is limited to a particular portion of the facility. When accessible guest rooms are added as a result of subsequent alterations, compliance with 224.5 (Dispersion) is more likely to be achieved if all of the accessible guest rooms are not provided in the same area of the facility.

**F224.1.2 Guest Room Doors and Doorways.** *Entrances*, doors, and doorways providing user passage into and within guest rooms that are not required to provide mobility features complying with 806.2 shall comply with 404.2.3.

**EXCEPTION:** Shower and sauna doors in guest rooms that are not required to provide mobility features complying with 806.2 shall not be required to comply with 404.2.3.

**Advisory F224.1.2 Guest Room Doors and Doorways.** Because of the social interaction that often occurs in lodging facilities, an accessible clear opening width is required for doors and doorways to and within all guest rooms, including those not required to be accessible. This applies to all doors, including bathroom doors, that allow full user passage. Other requirements for doors and doorways in Section 404 do not apply to guest rooms not required to provide mobility features.

**F224.2 Guest Rooms with Mobility Features.** In *transient lodging facilities*, guest rooms with mobility features complying with 806.2 shall be provided in accordance with Table F224.2.

Table F224.2 Guest Rooms with Mobility Features

Total Number of Guest Rooms Provided	Minimum Number of Required Rooms Without Roll-in Showers	Minimum Number of Required Rooms With Roll-in Showers	Total Number of Required Rooms
1 to 25	1	0	1
26 to 50	2	0	2
51 to 75	3	1	4
76 to 100	4	1	5
101 to 150	5	2	7
151 to 200	6	2	8
201 to 300	7	3	10
301 to 400	8	4	12
401 to 500	9	4	13
501 to 1000	2 percent of total	1 percent of total	3 percent of total
1001 and over	20, plus 1 for each 100, or fraction thereof, over 1000	10, plus 1 for each 100, or fraction thereof, over 1000	30, plus 2 for each 100, or fraction thereof, over 1000

**F224.3 Beds.** In guest rooms having more than 25 beds, 5 percent minimum of the beds shall have clear floor *space* complying with 806.2.3.

**F224.4 Guest Rooms with Communication Features.** In *transient lodging facilities*, guest rooms with communication features complying with 806.3 shall be provided in accordance with Table F224.4.

Table F224.4 Guest Rooms with Communication Features

Total Number of Guest Rooms Provided	Minimum Number of Required Guest Rooms With Communication Features
2 to 25	2
26 to 50	4
51 to 75	7
76 to 100	9
101 to 150	12



**Table F224.4 Guest Rooms with Communication Features**

<b>Total Number of Guest Rooms Provided</b>	<b>Minimum Number of Required Guest Rooms With Communication Features</b>
151 to 200	14
201 to 300	17
301 to 400	20
401 to 500	22
501 to 1000	5 percent of total
1001 and over	50, plus 3 for each 100 over 1000

**F224.5 Dispersion.** Guest rooms required to provide mobility features complying with 806.2 and guest rooms required to provide communication features complying with 806.3 shall be dispersed among the various classes of guest rooms, and shall provide choices of types of guest rooms, number of beds, and other amenities comparable to the choices provided to other guests. Where the minimum number of guest rooms required to comply with 806 is not sufficient to allow for complete dispersion, guest rooms shall be dispersed in the following priority: guest room type, number of beds, and amenities. At least one guest room required to provide mobility features complying with 806.2 shall also provide communication features complying with 806.3. Not more than 10 percent of guest rooms required to provide mobility features complying with 806.2 shall be used to satisfy the minimum number of guest rooms required to provide communication features complying with 806.3.

**Advisory F224.5 Dispersion.** Factors to be considered in providing an equivalent range of options may include, but are not limited to, room size, bed size, cost, view, bathroom fixtures such as hot tubs and spas, smoking and nonsmoking, and the number of rooms provided.

## **F225 Storage**

**F225.1 General.** Storage *facilities* shall comply with F225.

**F225.2 Storage.** Where storage is provided in *accessible spaces*, at least one of each type shall comply with 811.

**Advisory F225.2 Storage.** Types of storage include, but are not limited to, closets, cabinets, shelves, clothes rods, hooks, and drawers. Where provided, at least one of each type of storage must be within the reach ranges specified in 308; however, it is permissible to install additional storage outside the reach ranges.

**F225.2.1 Lockers.** Where lockers are provided, at least 5 percent, but no fewer than one of each type, shall comply with 811.

**Advisory F225.2.1 Lockers.** Different types of lockers may include full-size and half-size lockers, as well as those specifically designed for storage of various sports equipment.

**F225.2.2 Self-Service Shelving.** Self-service shelves shall be located on an *accessible* route complying with 402. Self-service shelving shall not be required to comply with 308.

**Advisory F225.2.2 Self-Service Shelving.** Self-service shelves include, but are not limited to, library, store, or post office shelves.

**F225.3 Self-Service Storage Facilities.** *Self-service storage facilities* shall provide individual *self-service storage spaces* complying with these requirements in accordance with Table F225.3.

**Table F225.3 Self-Service Storage Facilities**

Total Spaces in Facility	Minimum Number of Spaces Required to be Accessible
1 to 200	5 percent, but no fewer than 1
201 and over	10, plus 2 percent of total number of units over 200

**Advisory F225.3 Self-Service Storage Facilities.** Although there are no technical requirements that are unique to self-service storage facilities, elements and spaces provided in facilities containing self-service storage spaces required to comply with these requirements must comply with this document where applicable. For example: the number of storage spaces required to comply with these requirements must provide Accessible Routes complying with Section F206; Accessible Means of Egress complying with Section F207; Parking Spaces complying with Section F208; and, where provided, other public use or common use elements and facilities such as toilet rooms, drinking fountains, and telephones must comply with the applicable requirements of this document.

**F225.3.1 Dispersion.** Individual *self-service storage spaces* shall be dispersed throughout the various classes of *spaces* provided. Where more classes of *spaces* are provided than the number required to be *accessible*, the number of *spaces* shall not be required to exceed that required by Table F225.3. *Self-service storage spaces* complying with Table F225.3 shall not be required to be dispersed among *buildings* in a multi-building facility.

## **F226 Dining Surfaces and Work Surfaces**

**F226.1 General.** Where dining surfaces are provided for the consumption of food or drink, at least 5 percent of the seating *spaces* and standing *spaces* at the dining surfaces shall comply with 902. In addition, where work surfaces are provided, at least 5 percent shall comply with 902.

**EXCEPTIONS:** 1. Sales counters and service counters shall not be required to comply with 902.

2. Check writing surfaces provided at check-out aisles not required to comply with 904.3 shall not be required to comply with 902.

**Advisory F226.1 General.** In facilities covered by the ABA, this requirement applies to work surfaces used by employees. Five percent, but not less than one, of permanently installed work surfaces in each work area must be accessible. Permanently installed work surfaces include, but are not limited to, laboratory and work benches, fume hoods, reception counters, teller windows, study carrels, commercial kitchen counters, writing surfaces, and fixed conference tables. Where furnishings are not fixed, Sections 501, 503, and 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended provides that Federal employees, employees of Federal contractors, and certain other employees, are entitled to “reasonable accommodations.” This means that employers may need to procure or adjust furnishings to accommodate the individual needs of employees with disabilities on an “as needed” basis. Consider work surfaces that are flexible and permit installation at variable heights and clearances.

**F226.2 Dispersion.** Dining surfaces and work surfaces required to comply with 902 shall be dispersed throughout the *space* or *facility* containing dining surfaces and work surfaces.

## **F227 Sales and Service**

**F227.1 General.** Where provided, check-out aisles, sales counters, service counters, food service lines, queues, and waiting lines shall comply with F227 and 904.

**F227.2 Check-Out Aisles.** Where check-out aisles are provided, check-out aisles complying with 904.3 shall be provided in accordance with Table F227.2. Where check-out aisles serve different functions, check-out aisles complying with 904.3 shall be provided in accordance with Table F227.2 for each function. Where check-out aisles are dispersed throughout the *building* or *facility*, check-out aisles complying with 904.3 shall be dispersed.

**EXCEPTION:** Where the selling *space* is under 5000 square feet (465 m<sup>2</sup>) no more than one check-out aisle complying with 904.3 shall be required.

**Table F227.2 Check-Out Aisles**

<b>Number of Check-Out Aisles of Each Function</b>	<b>Minimum Number of Check-Out Aisles of Each Function Required to Comply with 904.3</b>
1 to 4	1
5 to 8	2
9 to 15	3
16 and over	3, plus 20 percent of additional aisles

**F227.2.1 Altered Check-Out Aisles.** Where check-out aisles are *altered*, at least one of each check-out aisle serving each function shall comply with 904.3 until the number of check-out aisles complies with F227.2.

**F227.3 Counters.** Where provided, at least one of each type of sales counter and service counter shall comply with 904.4. Where counters are dispersed throughout the *building* or *facility*, counters complying with 904.4 also shall be dispersed.

**Advisory F227.3 Counters.** Types of counters that provide different services in the same facility include, but are not limited to, order, pick-up, express, and returns. One continuous counter can be used to provide different types of service. For example, order and pick-up are different services. It would not be acceptable to provide access only to the part of the counter where orders are taken when orders are picked-up at a different location on the same counter. Both the order and pick-up section of the counter must be accessible.

**F227.4 Food Service Lines.** Food service lines shall comply with 904.5. Where self-service shelves are provided, at least 50 percent, but no fewer than one, of each type provided shall comply with 308.

**F227.5 Queues and Waiting Lines.** Queues and waiting lines servicing counters or check-out aisles required to comply with 904.3 or 904.4 shall comply with 403.

## **F228 Depositories, Vending Machines, Change Machines, Mail Boxes, and Fuel Dispensers**

**F228.1 General.** Where provided, at least one of each type of depository, vending machine, change machine, and fuel dispenser shall comply with 309.

**EXCEPTIONS:** 1. Drive-up only depositories shall not be required to comply with 309.

2. Fuel dispensers provided for fueling official government vehicles shall not be required to comply with 309.

**Advisory F228.1 General.** Depositories include, but are not limited to, night receptacles in banks, post offices, video stores, and libraries.

**F228.2 Mail Boxes.** Where *mail boxes* are provided in an interior location, at least 5 percent, but no fewer than one, of each type shall comply with 309. In residential *facilities*, where *mail boxes* are provided for each *residential dwelling unit*, *mail boxes* complying with 309 shall be provided for each *residential dwelling unit* required to provide mobility features complying with 809.2 through 809.4.

## **F229 Windows**

**F229.1 General.** Where glazed openings are provided in *accessible* rooms or *spaces* for operation by occupants, excluding employees, at least one opening shall comply with 309. In *accessible* rooms or *spaces*, each glazed opening required by an *administrative authority* to be operable shall comply with 309.

**EXCEPTION: 1.** Glazed openings in *residential dwelling units* required to comply with 809 shall not be required to comply with F229.

2. Glazed openings in guest rooms required to provide communication features and in guest rooms required to comply with F206.5.3 shall not be required to comply with F229.

## **F230 Two-Way Communication Systems**

**F230.1 General.** Where a two-way communication system is provided to gain admittance to a *building* or *facility* or to restricted areas within a *building* or *facility*, the system shall comply with 708.

**Advisory F230.1 General.** This requirement applies to facilities such as office buildings, courthouses, and other facilities where admittance to the building or restricted spaces is dependent on two-way communication systems.

## **F231 Judicial Facilities — F243.1 General<sup><</sup>**

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<sup><</sup> Sections F231 through F243 contain scoping requirements for design elements that are rarely included in Postal Service facilities. For this reason, the text for these sections was not included in this handbook. Nevertheless, the Postal Service is subject to the requirements contained in these sections if a Postal Service facility or project includes design elements covered by these sections. The full text for all sections in Chapter 2 of the accessibility guidelines issued by the Access Board is included in Appendix C to 36 CFR Part 1191.

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## CHAPTER 3: BUILDING BLOCKS

### 301 General

**301.1 Scope.** The provisions of Chapter 3 shall apply where required by Chapter 2 or where referenced by a requirement in this document.

### 302 Floor or Ground Surfaces

**302.1 General.** Floor and ground surfaces shall be stable, firm, and slip resistant and shall comply with 302.

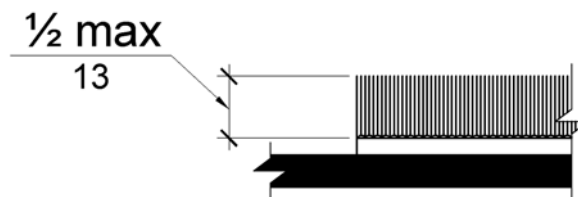
**EXCEPTIONS:** 1. Within animal containment areas, floor and ground surfaces shall not be required to be stable, firm, and slip resistant.

2. *Areas of sport activity* shall not be required to comply with 302.

**Advisory 302.1 General.** A stable surface is one that remains unchanged by contaminants or applied force, so that when the contaminant or force is removed, the surface returns to its original condition. A firm surface resists deformation by either indentations or particles moving on its surface. A slip-resistant surface provides sufficient frictional counterforce to the forces exerted in walking to permit safe ambulation.

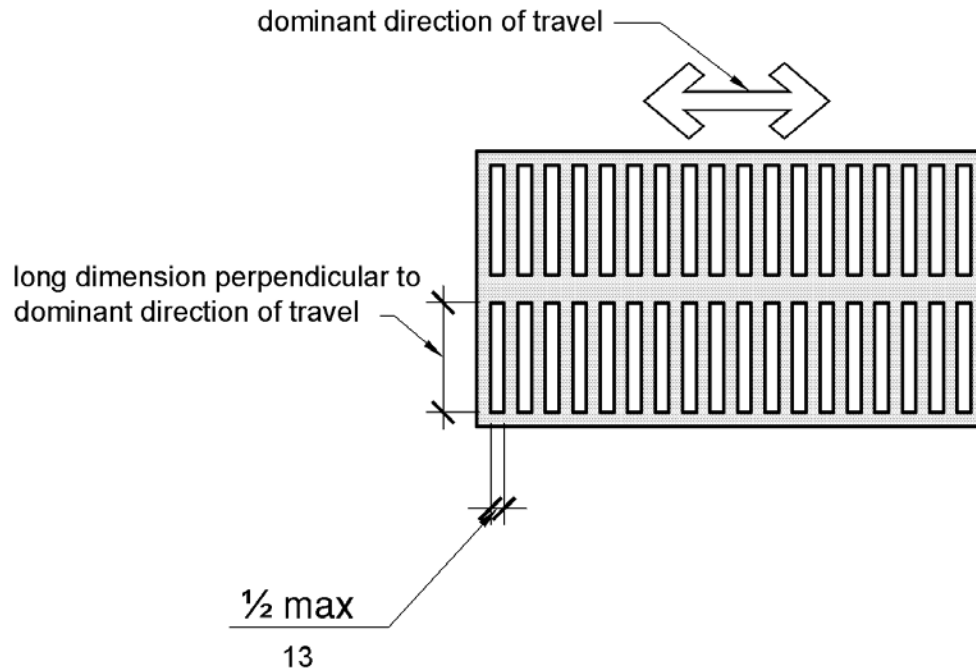
**302.2 Carpet.** Carpet or carpet tile shall be securely attached and shall have a firm cushion, pad, or backing or no cushion or pad. Carpet or carpet tile shall have a level loop, textured loop, level cut pile, or level cut/uncut pile texture. Pile height shall be  $\frac{1}{2}$  inch (13 mm) maximum. Exposed edges of carpet shall be fastened to floor surfaces and shall have trim on the entire length of the exposed edge. Carpet edge trim shall comply with 303.

**Advisory 302.2 Carpet.** Carpets and permanently affixed mats can significantly increase the amount of force (roll resistance) needed to propel a wheelchair over a surface. The firmer the carpeting and backing, the lower the roll resistance. A pile thickness up to  $\frac{1}{2}$  inch (13 mm) (measured to the backing, cushion, or pad) is allowed, although a lower pile provides easier wheelchair maneuvering. If a backing, cushion or pad is used, it must be firm. Preferably, carpet pad should not be used because the soft padding increases roll resistance.



**Figure 302.2**  
**Carpet Pile Height**

**302.3 Openings.** Openings in floor or ground surfaces shall not allow passage of a sphere more than  $\frac{1}{2}$  inch (13 mm) diameter except as allowed in 407.4.3, 409.4.3, 410.4, 810.5.3 and 810.10. Elongated openings shall be placed so that the long dimension is perpendicular to the dominant direction of travel.



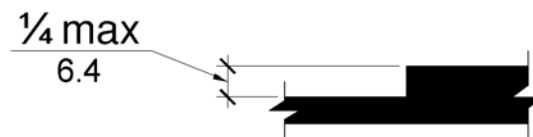
**Figure 302.3**  
**Elongated Openings in Floor or Ground Surfaces**

### 303 Changes in Level

**303.1 General.** Where changes in level are permitted in floor or ground surfaces, they shall comply with 303.

- EXCEPTIONS:** 1. Animal containment areas shall not be required to comply with 303.  
2. Areas of sport activity shall not be required to comply with 303.

**303.2 Vertical.** Changes in level of  $\frac{1}{4}$  inch (6.4 mm) high maximum shall be permitted to be vertical.

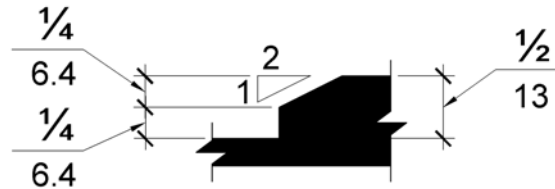


**Figure 303.2**  
**Vertical Change in Level**



**303.3 Beveled.** Changes in level between  $\frac{1}{4}$  inch (6.4 mm) high minimum and  $\frac{1}{2}$  inch (13 mm) high maximum shall be beveled with a slope not steeper than 1:2.

**Advisory 303.3 Beveled.** A change in level of  $\frac{1}{2}$  inch (13 mm) is permitted to be  $\frac{1}{4}$  inch (6.4 mm) vertical plus  $\frac{1}{4}$  inch (6.4 mm) beveled. However, in no case may the combined change in level exceed  $\frac{1}{2}$  inch (13 mm). Changes in level exceeding  $\frac{1}{2}$  inch (13 mm) must comply with 405 (Ramps) or 406 (Curb Ramps).



**Figure 303.3**  
**Beveled Change in Level**

**303.4 Ramps.** Changes in level greater than  $\frac{1}{2}$  inch (13 mm) high shall be *ramped*, and shall comply with 405 or 406.

### 304 Turning Space

**304.1 General.** Turning *space* shall comply with 304.

**304.2 Floor or Ground Surfaces.** Floor or ground surfaces of a turning *space* shall comply with 302. Changes in level are not permitted.

**EXCEPTION:** Slopes not steeper than 1:48 shall be permitted.

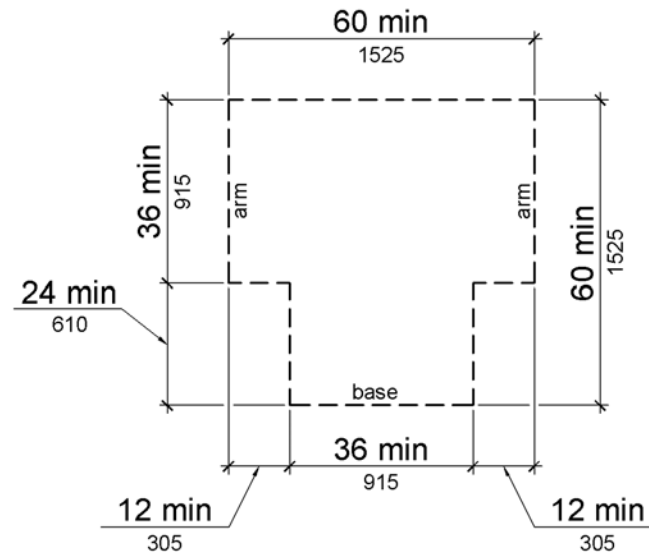
**Advisory 304.2 Floor or Ground Surface Exception.** As used in this section, the phrase “changes in level” refers to surfaces with slopes and to surfaces with abrupt rise exceeding that permitted in Section 303.3. Such changes in level are prohibited in required clear floor and ground spaces, turning spaces, and in similar spaces where people using wheelchairs and other mobility devices must park their mobility aids such as in wheelchair spaces, or maneuver to use elements such as at doors, fixtures, and telephones. The exception permits slopes not steeper than 1:48.

**304.3 Size.** Turning *space* shall comply with 304.3.1 or 304.3.2.

**304.3.1 Circular Space.** The turning *space* shall be a *space* of 60 inches (1525 mm) diameter minimum. The *space* shall be permitted to include knee and toe clearance complying with 306.

**304.3.2 T-Shaped Space.** The turning *space* shall be a T-shaped *space* within a 60 inch (1525 mm) square minimum with arms and base 36 inches (915 mm) wide minimum. Each arm of the T shall be clear of obstructions 12 inches (305 mm) minimum in each direction and the base shall be clear of

obstructions 24 inches (610 mm) minimum. The *space* shall be permitted to include knee and toe clearance complying with 306 only at the end of either the base or one arm.



**Figure 304.3.2**  
**T-Shaped Turning Space**

**304.4 Door Swing.** Doors shall be permitted to swing into turning spaces.

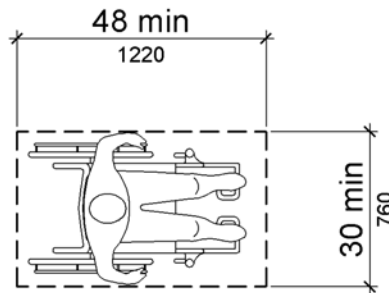
### 305 Clear Floor or Ground Space

**305.1 General.** Clear floor or ground space shall comply with 305.

**305.2 Floor or Ground Surfaces.** Floor or ground surfaces of a clear floor or ground space shall comply with 302. Changes in level are not permitted.

**EXCEPTION:** Slopes not steeper than 1:48 shall be permitted.

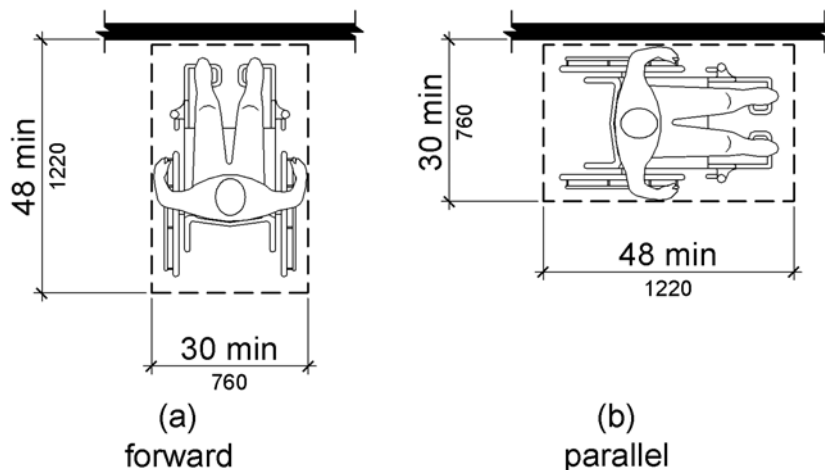
**305.3 Size.** The clear floor or ground space shall be 30 inches (760 mm) minimum by 48 inches (1220 mm) minimum.



**Figure 305.3**  
**Clear Floor or Ground Space**

**305.4 Knee and Toe Clearance.** Unless otherwise specified, clear floor or ground *space* shall be permitted to include knee and toe clearance complying with 306.

**305.5 Position.** Unless otherwise specified, clear floor or ground *space* shall be positioned for either forward or parallel approach to an *element*.

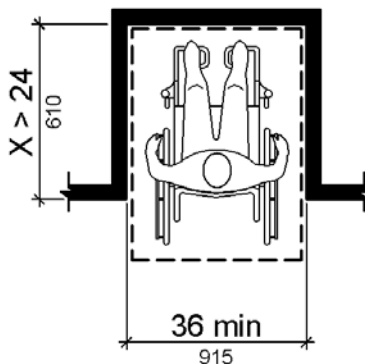


**Figure 305.5**  
**Position of Clear Floor or Ground Space**

**305.6 Approach.** One full unobstructed side of the clear floor or ground *space* shall adjoin an *accessible* route or adjoin another clear floor or ground *space*.

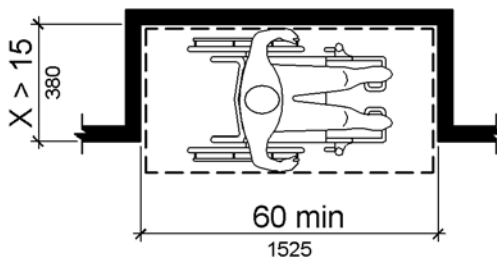
**305.7 Maneuvering Clearance.** Where a clear floor or ground *space* is located in an alcove or otherwise confined on all or part of three sides, additional maneuvering clearance shall be provided in accordance with 305.7.1 and 305.7.2.

**305.7.1 Forward Approach.** Alcoves shall be 36 inches (915 mm) wide minimum where the depth exceeds 24 inches (610 mm).



**Figure 305.7.1**  
**Maneuvering Clearance in an Alcove, Forward Approach**

**305.7.2 Parallel Approach.** Alcoves shall be 60 inches (1525 mm) wide minimum where the depth exceeds 15 inches (380 mm).



**Figure 305.7.2**  
**Maneuvering Clearance in an Alcove, Parallel Approach**

### 306 Knee and Toe Clearance

**306.1 General.** Where *space* beneath an *element* is included as part of clear floor or ground *space* or turning *space*, the *space* shall comply with 306. Additional *space* shall not be prohibited beneath an *element* but shall not be considered as part of the clear floor or ground *space* or turning *space*.

**Advisory 306.1 General.** Clearances are measured in relation to the usable clear floor space, not necessarily to the vertical support for an element. When determining clearance under an object for required turning or maneuvering space, care should be taken to ensure the space is clear of any obstructions.

### 306.2 Toe Clearance.

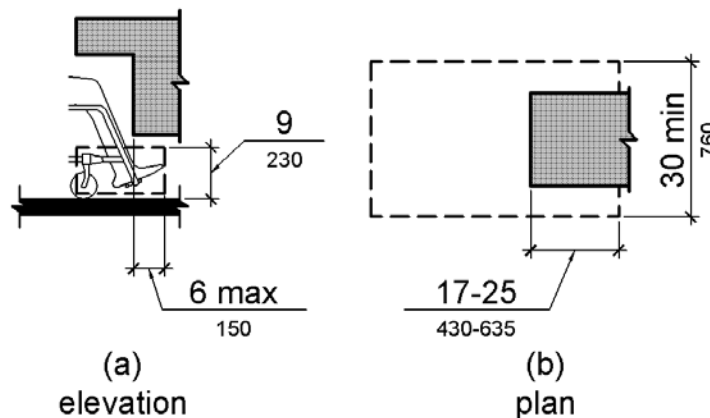
**306.2.1 General.** Space under an *element* between the finish floor or ground and 9 inches (230 mm) above the finish floor or ground shall be considered toe clearance and shall comply with 306.2.

**306.2.2 Maximum Depth.** Toe clearance shall extend 25 inches (635 mm) maximum under an *element*.

**306.2.3 Minimum Required Depth.** Where toe clearance is required at an *element* as part of a clear floor *space*, the toe clearance shall extend 17 inches (430 mm) minimum under the *element*.

**306.2.4 Additional Clearance.** Space extending greater than 6 inches (150 mm) beyond the available knee clearance at 9 inches (230 mm) above the finish floor or ground shall not be considered toe clearance.

**306.2.5 Width.** Toe clearance shall be 30 inches (760 mm) wide minimum.



**Figure 306.2**  
**Toe Clearance**

### 306.3 Knee Clearance.

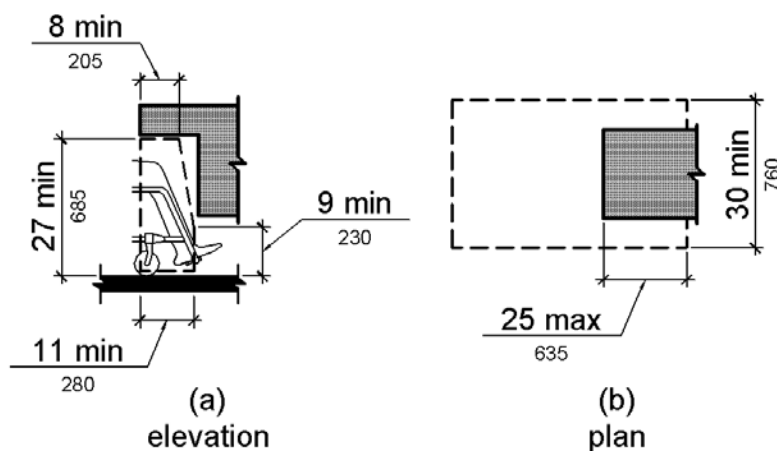
**306.3.1 General.** Space under an *element* between 9 inches (230 mm) and 27 inches (685 mm) above the finish floor or ground shall be considered knee clearance and shall comply with 306.3.

**306.3.2 Maximum Depth.** Knee clearance shall extend 25 inches (635 mm) maximum under an *element* at 9 inches (230 mm) above the finish floor or ground.

**306.3.3 Minimum Required Depth.** Where knee clearance is required under an *element* as part of a clear floor *space*, the knee clearance shall be 11 inches (280 mm) deep minimum at 9 inches (230 mm) above the finish floor or ground, and 8 inches (205 mm) deep minimum at 27 inches (685 mm) above the finish floor or ground.

**306.3.4 Clearance Reduction.** Between 9 inches (230 mm) and 27 inches (685 mm) above the finish floor or ground, the knee clearance shall be permitted to reduce at a rate of 1 inch (25 mm) in depth for each 6 inches (150 mm) in height.

**306.3.5 Width.** Knee clearance shall be 30 inches (760 mm) wide minimum.



**Figure 306.3**  
**Knee Clearance**

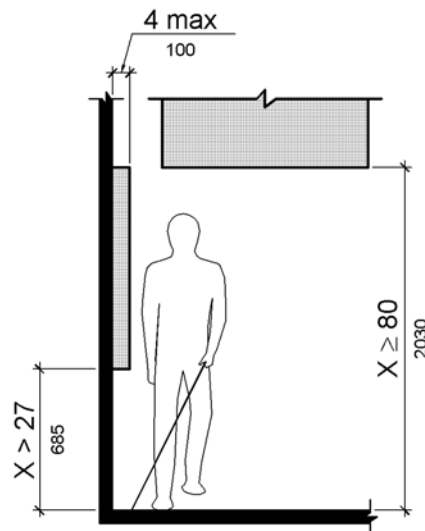
## 307 Protruding Objects

**307.1 General.** Protruding objects shall comply with 307.

**307.2 Protrusion Limits.** Objects with leading edges more than 27 inches (685 mm) and not more than 80 inches (2030 mm) above the finish floor or ground shall protrude 4 inches (100 mm) maximum horizontally into the *circulation path*.

**EXCEPTION:** Handrails shall be permitted to protrude 4½ inches (115 mm) maximum.

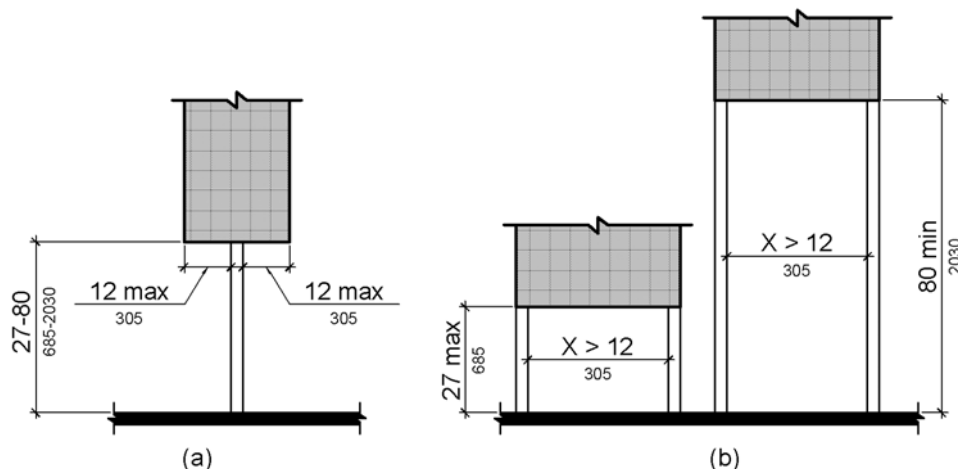
**Advisory 307.2 Protrusion Limits.** When a cane is used and the element is in the detectable range, it gives a person sufficient time to detect the element with the cane before there is body contact. Elements located on circulation paths, including operable elements, must comply with requirements for protruding objects. For example, awnings and their supporting structures cannot reduce the minimum required vertical clearance. Similarly, casement windows, when open, cannot encroach more than 4 inches (100 mm) into circulation paths above 27 inches (685 mm).



**Figure 307.2**  
**Limits of Protruding Objects**

**307.3 Post-Mounted Objects.** Free-standing objects mounted on posts or pylons shall overhang *circulation paths* 12 inches (305 mm) maximum when located 27 inches (685 mm) minimum and 80 inches (2030 mm) maximum above the finish floor or ground. Where a sign or other obstruction is mounted between posts or pylons and the clear distance between the posts or pylons is greater than 12 inches (305 mm), the lowest edge of such sign or obstruction shall be 27 inches (685 mm) maximum or 80 inches (2030 mm) minimum above the finish floor or ground.

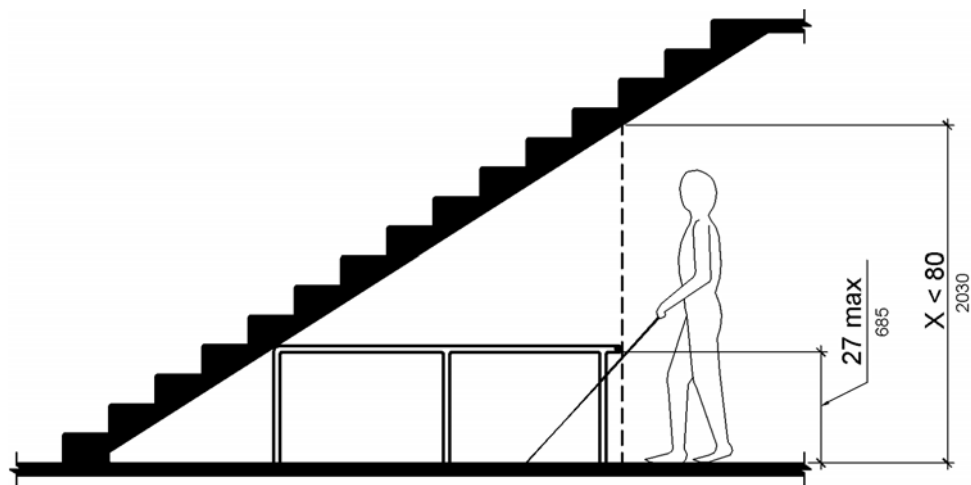
**EXCEPTION:** The sloping portions of handrails serving stairs and *ramps* shall not be required to comply with 307.3.



**Figure 307.3**  
**Post-Mounted Protruding Objects**

**307.4 Vertical Clearance.** Vertical clearance shall be 80 inches (2030 mm) high minimum. Guardrails or other barriers shall be provided where the vertical clearance is less than 80 inches (2030 mm) high. The leading edge of such guardrail or barrier shall be located 27 inches (685 mm) maximum above the finish floor or ground.

**EXCEPTION:** Door closers and door stops shall be permitted to be 78 inches (1980 mm) minimum above the finish floor or ground.



**Figure 307.4**  
**Vertical Clearance**

**307.5 Required Clear Width.** Protruding objects shall not reduce the clear width required for *accessible* routes.

### 308 Reach Ranges

**308.1 General.** Reach ranges shall comply with 308.

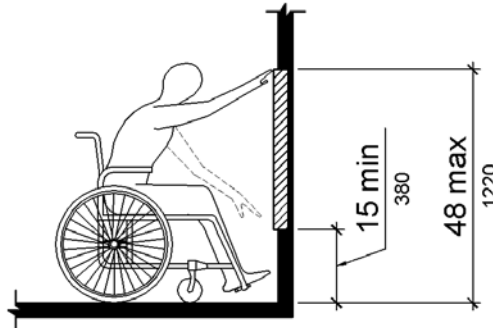
**Advisory 308.1 General.** The following table provides guidance on reach ranges for children according to age where building elements such as coat hooks, lockers, or operable parts are designed for use primarily by children. These dimensions apply to either forward or side reaches. Accessible elements and operable parts designed for adult use or children over age 12 can be located outside these ranges but must be within the adult reach ranges required by 308.

Children's Reach Ranges			
Forward or Side Reach	Ages 3 and 4	Ages 5 through 8	Ages 9 through 12
High (maximum)	36 in (915 mm)	40 in (1015 mm)	44 in (1120 mm)
Low (minimum)	20 in (510 mm)	18 in (455 mm)	16 in (405 mm)



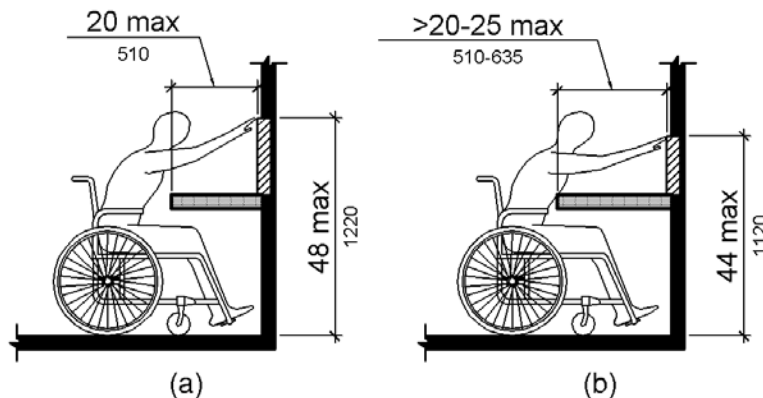
### 308.2 Forward Reach.

**308.2.1 Unobstructed.** Where a forward reach is unobstructed, the high forward reach shall be 48 inches (1220 mm) maximum and the low forward reach shall be 15 inches (380 mm) minimum above the finish floor or ground.



**Figure 308.2.1**  
**Unobstructed Forward Reach**

**308.2.2 Obstructed High Reach.** Where a high forward reach is over an obstruction, the clear floor space shall extend beneath the *element* for a distance not less than the required reach depth over the obstruction. The high forward reach shall be 48 inches (1220 mm) maximum where the reach depth is 20 inches (510 mm) maximum. Where the reach depth exceeds 20 inches (510 mm), the high forward reach shall be 44 inches (1120 mm) maximum and the reach depth shall be 25 inches (635 mm) maximum.



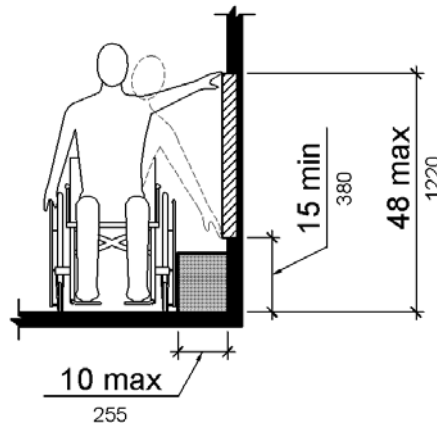
**Figure 308.2.2**  
**Obstructed High Forward Reach**

### 308.3 Side Reach.

**308.3.1 Unobstructed.** Where a clear floor or ground *space* allows a parallel approach to an *element* and the side reach is unobstructed, the high side reach shall be 48 inches (1220 mm)

maximum and the low side reach shall be 15 inches (380 mm) minimum above the finish floor or ground.

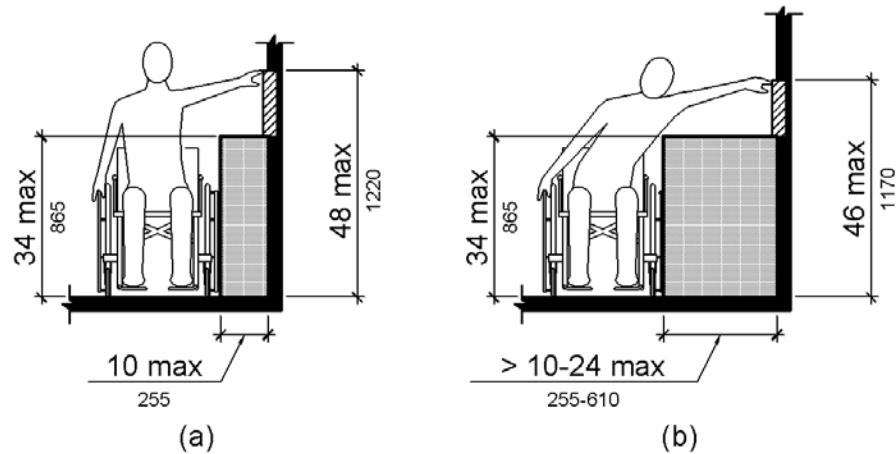
- EXCEPTIONS:** 1. An obstruction shall be permitted between the clear floor or ground *space* and the *element* where the depth of the obstruction is 10 inches (255 mm) maximum.
2. *Operable parts* of fuel dispensers shall be permitted to be 54 inches (1370 mm) maximum measured from the surface of the *vehicular way* where fuel dispensers are installed on existing curbs.



**Figure 308.3.1**  
**Unobstructed Side Reach**

**308.3.2 Obstructed High Reach.** Where a clear floor or ground *space* allows a parallel approach to an *element* and the high side reach is over an obstruction, the height of the obstruction shall be 34 inches (865 mm) maximum and the depth of the obstruction shall be 24 inches (610 mm) maximum. The high side reach shall be 48 inches (1220 mm) maximum for a reach depth of 10 inches (255 mm) maximum. Where the reach depth exceeds 10 inches (255 mm), the high side reach shall be 46 inches (1170 mm) maximum for a reach depth of 24 inches (610 mm) maximum.

- EXCEPTIONS:** 1. The top of washing machines and clothes dryers shall be permitted to be 36 inches (915 mm) maximum above the finish floor.
2. *Operable parts* of fuel dispensers shall be permitted to be 54 inches (1370 mm) maximum measured from the surface of the *vehicular way* where fuel dispensers are installed on existing curbs.



**Figure 308.3.2**  
**Obstructed High Side Reach**

### 309 Operable Parts

**309.1 General.** *Operable parts* shall comply with 309.

**309.2 Clear Floor Space.** A clear floor or ground *space* complying with 305 shall be provided.

**309.3 Height.** *Operable parts* shall be placed within one or more of the reach ranges specified in 308.

**309.4 Operation.** *Operable parts* shall be operable with one hand and shall not require tight grasping, pinching, or twisting of the wrist. The force required to activate *operable parts* shall be 5 pounds (22.2 N) maximum.

**EXCEPTION:** Gas pump nozzles shall not be required to provide *operable parts* that have an activating force of 5 pounds (22.2 N) maximum.

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## CHAPTER 4: ACCESSIBLE ROUTES

### 401 General

**401.1 Scope.** The provisions of Chapter 4 shall apply where required by Chapter 2 or where referenced by a requirement in this document.

### 402 Accessible Routes

**402.1 General.** *Accessible* routes shall comply with 402.

**402.2 Components.** *Accessible* routes shall consist of one or more of the following components: walking surfaces with a *running slope* not steeper than 1:20, doorways, *ramps*, *curb ramps* excluding the flared sides, elevators, and platform lifts. All components of an *accessible* route shall comply with the applicable requirements of Chapter 4.

**Advisory 402.2 Components.** Walking surfaces must have running slopes not steeper than 1:20, see 403.3. Other components of accessible routes, such as ramps (405) and curb ramps (406), are permitted to be more steeply sloped.

### 403 Walking Surfaces

**403.1 General.** Walking surfaces that are a part of an *accessible* route shall comply with 403.

**403.2 Floor or Ground Surface.** Floor or ground surfaces shall comply with 302.

**403.3 Slope.** The *running slope* of walking surfaces shall not be steeper than 1:20. The *cross slope* of walking surfaces shall not be steeper than 1:48.

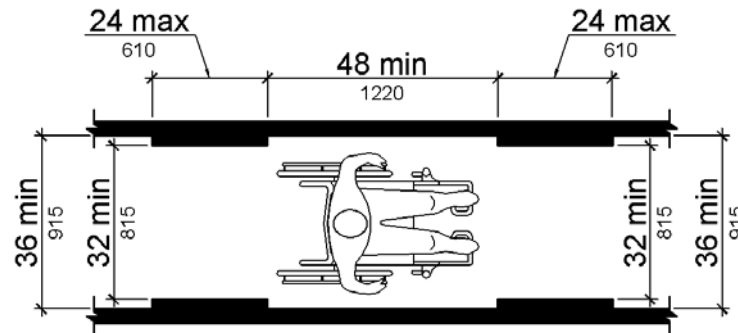
**403.4 Changes in Level.** Changes in level shall comply with 303.

**403.5 Clearances.** Walking surfaces shall provide clearances complying with 403.5.

**EXCEPTION:** Within *employee work areas*, clearances on *common use circulation paths* shall be permitted to be decreased by *work area equipment* provided that the decrease is essential to the function of the work being performed.

**403.5.1 Clear Width.** Except as provided in 403.5.2 and 403.5.3, the clear width of walking surfaces shall be 36 inches (915 mm) minimum.

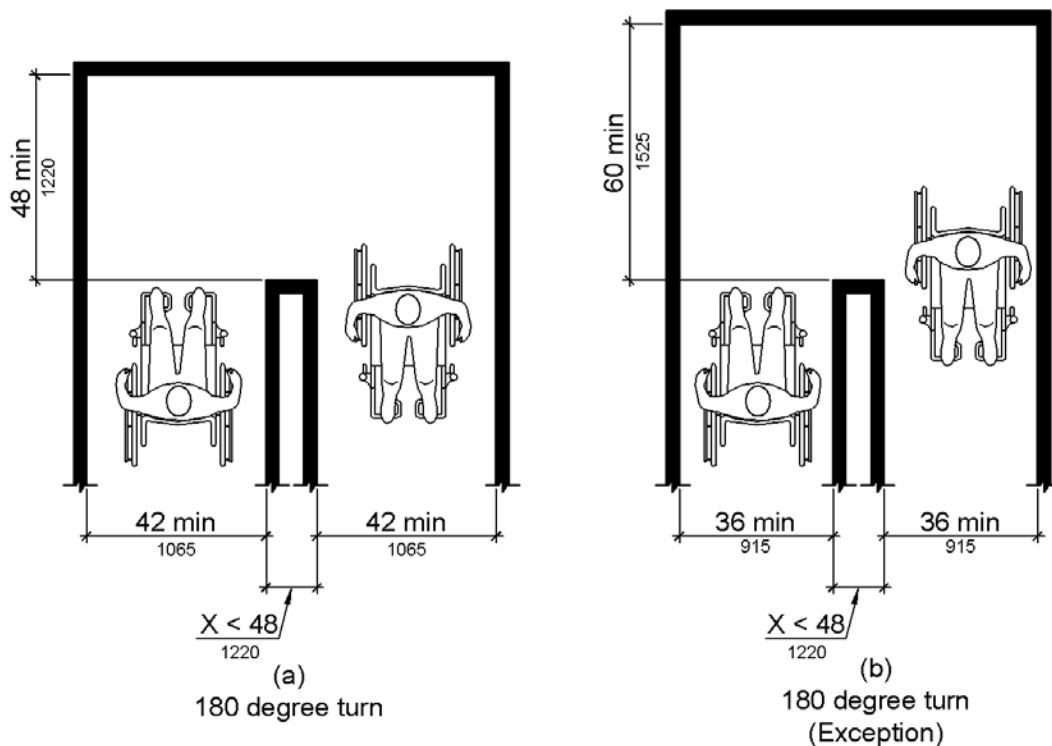
**EXCEPTION:** The clear width shall be permitted to be reduced to 32 inches (815 mm) minimum for a length of 24 inches (610 mm) maximum provided that reduced width segments are separated by segments that are 48 inches (1220 mm) long minimum and 36 inches (915 mm) wide minimum.



**Figure 403.5.1**  
**Clear Width of an Accessible Route**

**403.5.2 Clear Width at Turn.** Where the *accessible* route makes a 180 degree turn around an *element* which is less than 48 inches (1220 mm) wide, clear width shall be 42 inches (1065 mm) minimum approaching the turn, 48 inches (1220 mm) minimum at the turn and 42 inches (1065 mm) minimum leaving the turn.

**EXCEPTION:** Where the clear width at the turn is 60 inches (1525 mm) minimum compliance with 403.5.2 shall not be required.



**Figure 403.5.2**  
**Clear Width at Turn**

**403.5.3 Passing Spaces.** An *accessible* route with a clear width less than 60 inches (1525 mm) shall provide passing *spaces* at intervals of 200 feet (61 m) maximum. Passing *spaces* shall be either: a *space* 60 inches (1525 mm) minimum by 60 inches (1525 mm) minimum; or, an intersection of two walking surfaces providing a T-shaped *space* complying with 304.3.2 where the base and arms of the T-shaped *space* extend 48 inches (1220 mm) minimum beyond the intersection.

**403.6 Handrails.** Where handrails are provided along walking surfaces with *running slopes* not steeper than 1:20 they shall comply with 505.

**Advisory 403.6 Handrails.** Handrails provided in elevator cabs and platform lifts are not required to comply with the requirements for handrails on walking surfaces.

## **404 Doors, Doorways, and Gates**

**404.1 General.** Doors, doorways, and gates that are part of an *accessible* route shall comply with 404.

**EXCEPTION:** Doors, doorways, and gates designed to be operated only by security personnel shall not be required to comply with 404.2.7, 404.2.8, 404.2.9, 404.3.2 and 404.3.4 through 404.3.7.

**Advisory 404.1 General Exception.** Security personnel must have sole control of doors that are eligible for the Exception at 404.1. It would not be acceptable for security personnel to operate the doors for people with disabilities while allowing others to have independent access.

**404.2 Manual Doors, Doorways, and Manual Gates.** Manual doors and doorways and manual gates intended for user passage shall comply with 404.2.

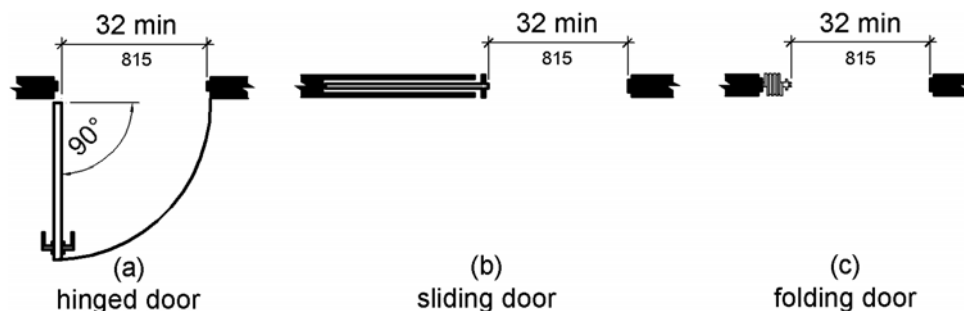
**404.2.1 Revolving Doors, Gates, and Turnstiles.** Revolving doors, revolving gates, and turnstiles shall not be part of an *accessible* route.

**404.2.2 Double-Leaf Doors and Gates.** At least one of the active leaves of doorways with two leaves shall comply with 404.2.3 and 404.2.4.

**404.2.3 Clear Width.** Door openings shall provide a clear width of 32 inches (815 mm) minimum. Clear openings of doorways with swinging doors shall be measured between the face of the door and the stop, with the door open 90 degrees. Openings more than 24 inches (610 mm) deep shall provide a clear opening of 36 inches (915 mm) minimum. There shall be no projections into the required clear opening width lower than 34 inches (865 mm) above the finish floor or ground. Projections into the clear opening width between 34 inches (865 mm) and 80 inches (2030 mm) above the finish floor or ground shall not exceed 4 inches (100 mm).

**EXCEPTIONS:** 1. In *alterations*, a projection of 5/8 inch (16 mm) maximum into the required clear width shall be permitted for the latch side stop.

2. Door closers and door stops shall be permitted to be 78 inches (1980 mm) minimum above the finish floor or ground.



**Figure 404.2.3**  
**Clear Width of Doorways**

**404.2.4 Maneuvering Clearances.** Minimum maneuvering clearances at doors and gates shall comply with 404.2.4. Maneuvering clearances shall extend the full width of the doorway and the required latch side or hinge side clearance.

**EXCEPTION:** Entry doors to hospital patient rooms shall not be required to provide the clearance beyond the latch side of the door.

**404.2.4.1 Swinging Doors and Gates.** Swinging doors and gates shall have maneuvering clearances complying with Table 404.2.4.1.

**Table 404.2.4.1 Maneuvering Clearances at Manual Swinging Doors and Gates**

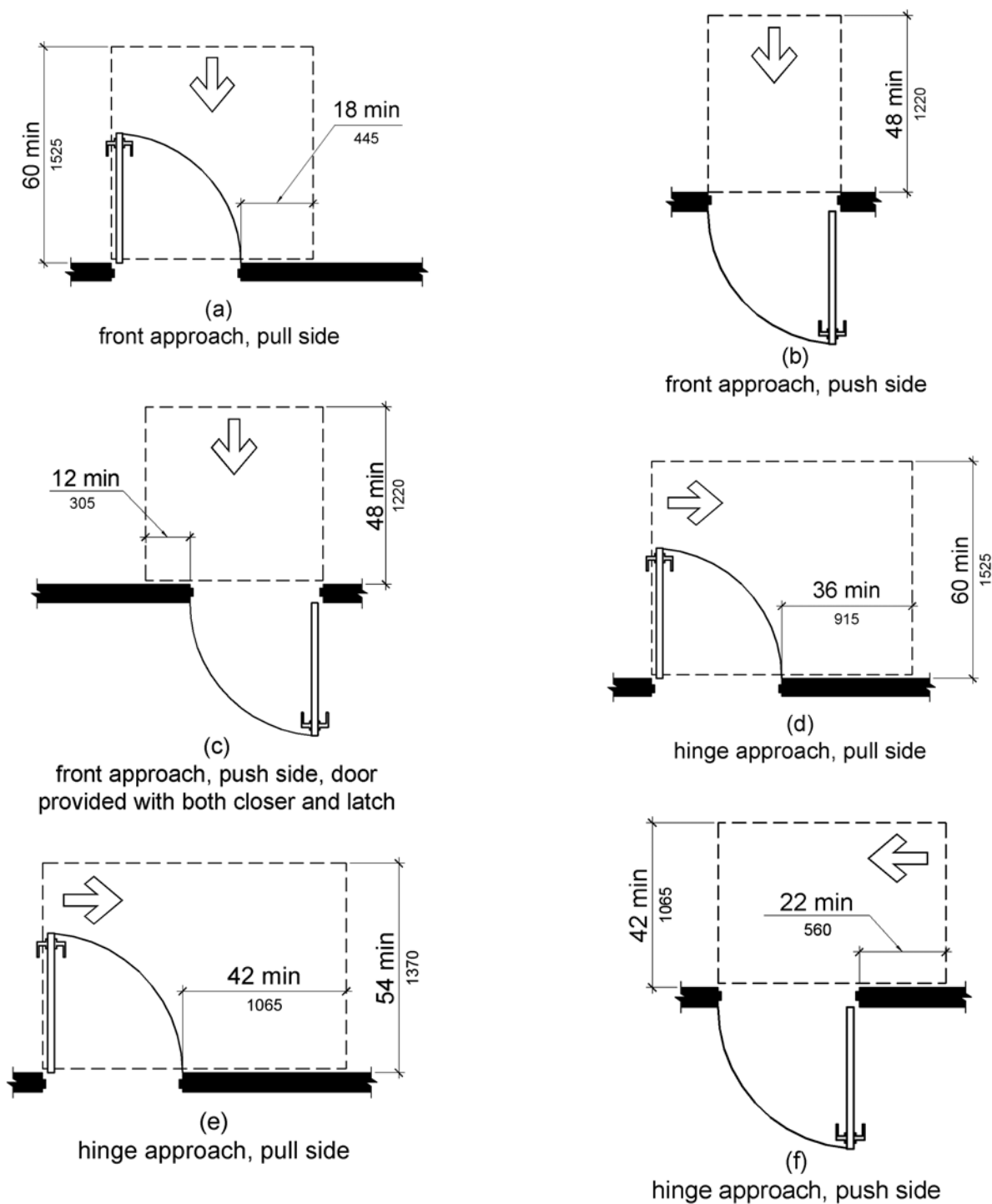
Type of Use		Minimum Maneuvering Clearance	
Approach Direction	Door or Gate Side	Perpendicular to Doorway	Parallel to Doorway (beyond latch side unless noted)
From front	Pull	60 inches (1525 mm)	18 inches (455 mm)
From front	Push	48 inches (1220 mm)	0 inches (0 mm) <sup>1</sup>
From hinge side	Pull	60 inches (1525 mm)	36 inches (915 mm)
From hinge side	Pull	54 inches (1370 mm)	42 inches (1065 mm)
From hinge side	Push	42 inches (1065 mm) <sup>2</sup>	22 inches (560 mm) <sup>3</sup>
From latch side	Pull	48 inches (1220 mm) <sup>4</sup>	24 inches (610 mm)
From latch side	Push	42 inches (1065 mm) <sup>4</sup>	24 inches (610 mm)

1. Add 12 inches (305 mm) if closer and latch are provided.

2. Add 6 inches (150 mm) if closer and latch are provided.

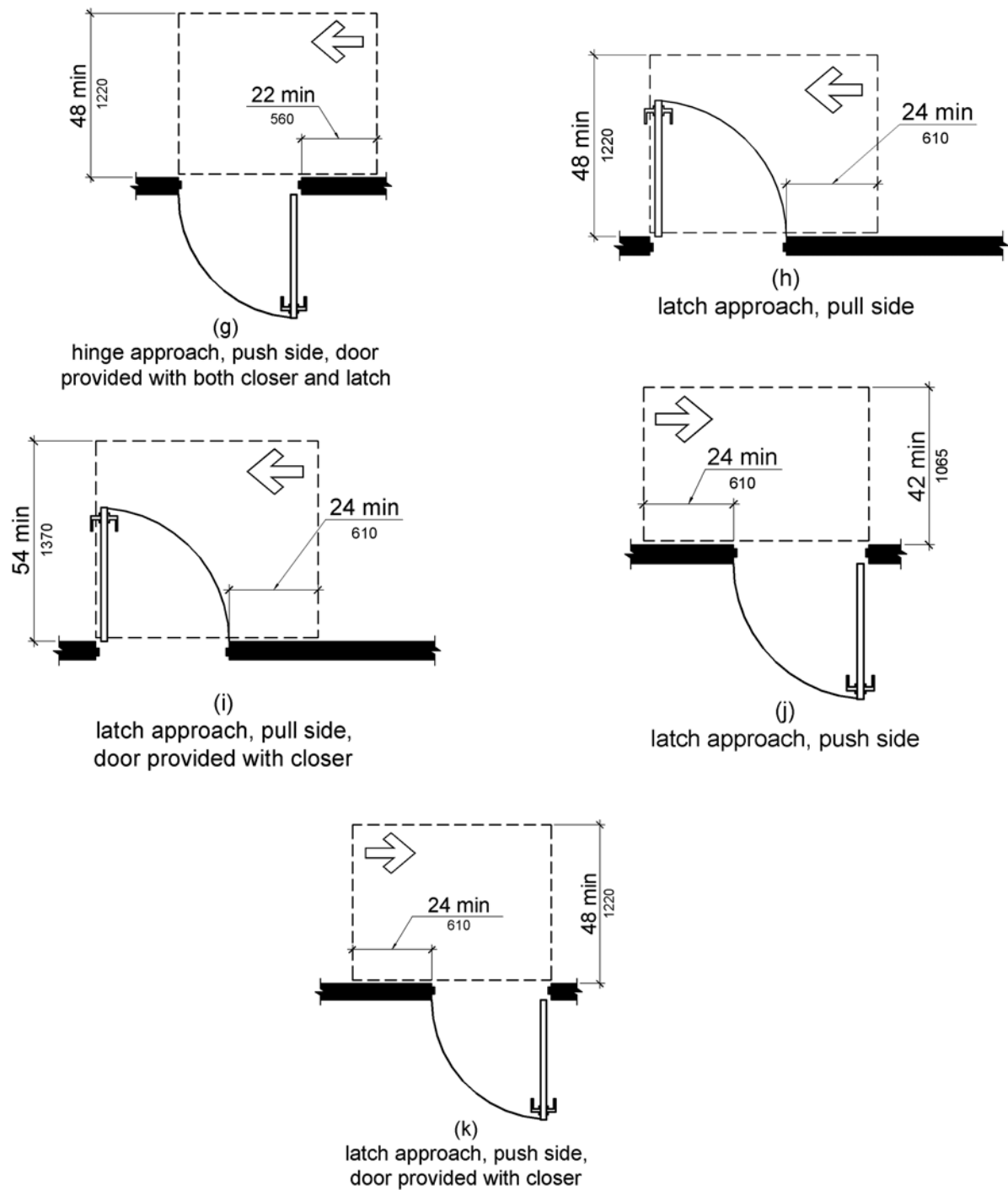
3. Beyond hinge side.

4. Add 6 inches (150 mm) if closer is provided.



**Figure 404.2.4.1**  
**Maneuvering Clearances at Manual Swinging Doors and Gates**





**Figure 404.2.4.1**  
**Maneuvering Clearances at Manual Swinging Doors and Gates**

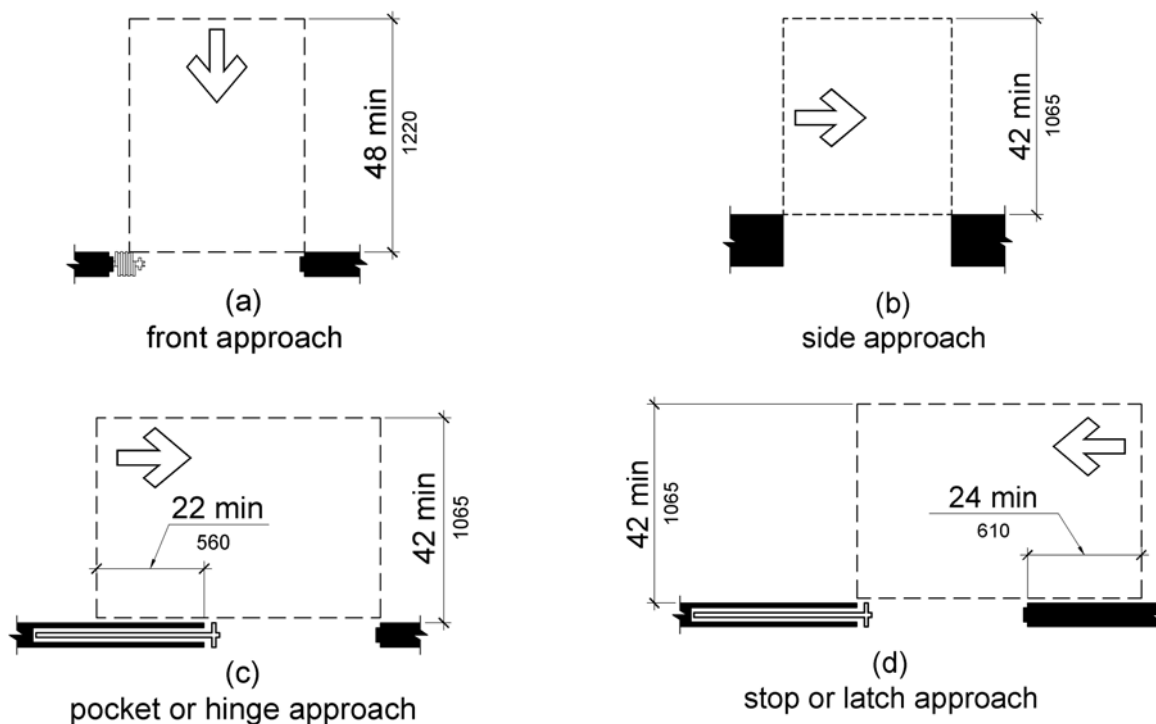
**404.2.4.2 Doorways without Doors or Gates, Sliding Doors, and Folding Doors.** Doorways less than 36 inches (915 mm) wide without doors or gates, sliding doors, or folding doors shall have maneuvering clearances complying with Table 404.2.4.2.

**Table 404.2.4.2 Maneuvering Clearances at Doorways without Doors or Gates, Manual Sliding Doors, and Manual Folding Doors**

Approach Direction	Minimum Maneuvering Clearance	
	Perpendicular to Doorway	Parallel to Doorway (beyond stop/latch side unless noted)
From Front	48 inches (1220 mm)	0 inches (0 mm)
From side <sup>1</sup>	42 inches (1065 mm)	0 inches (0 mm)
From pocket/hinge side	42 inches (1065 mm)	22 inches (560 mm) <sup>2</sup>
From stop/latch side	42 inches (1065 mm)	24 inches (610 mm)

1. Doorway with no door only.

2. Beyond pocket/hinge side.

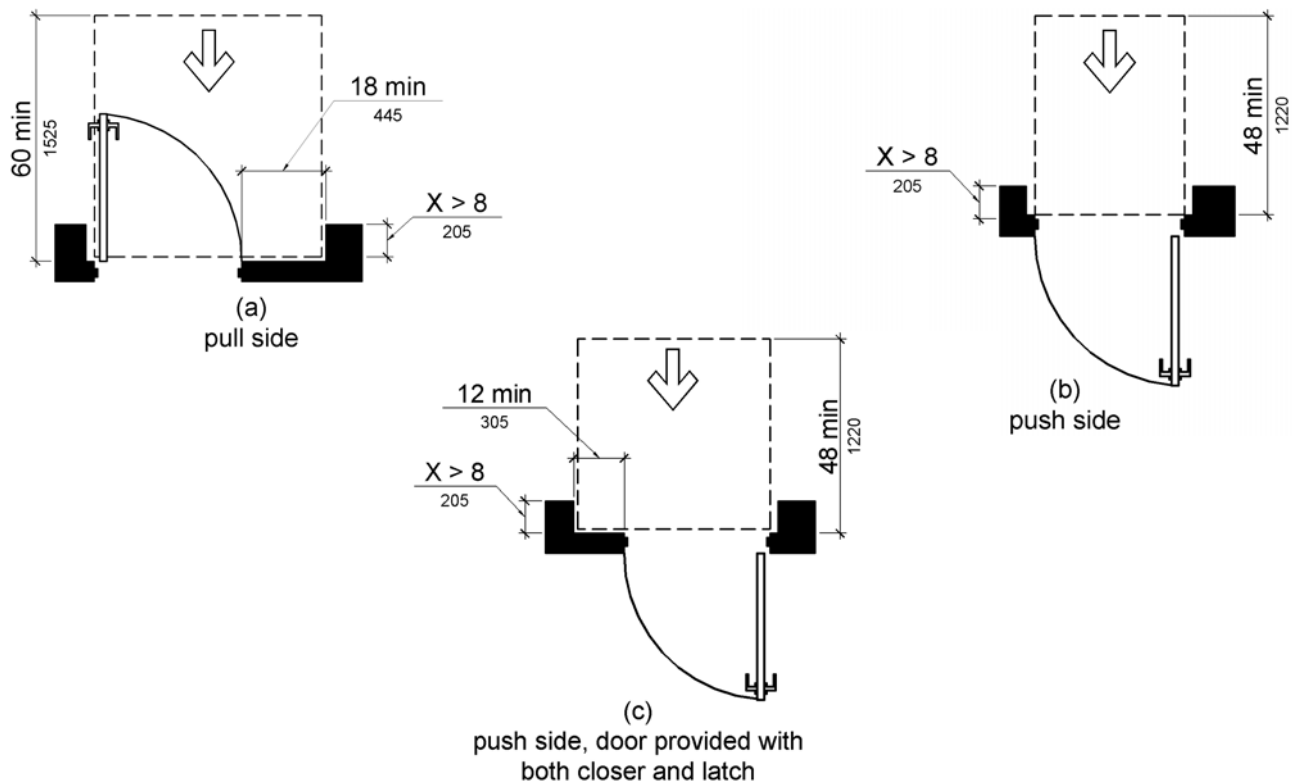


**Figure 404.2.4.2**

**Maneuvering Clearances at Doorways without Doors, Sliding Doors, Gates, and Folding Doors**

**404.2.4.3 Recessed Doors and Gates.** Maneuvering clearances for forward approach shall be provided when any obstruction within 18 inches (455 mm) of the latch side of a doorway projects more than 8 inches (205 mm) beyond the face of the door, measured perpendicular to the face of the door or gate.

**Advisory 404.2.4.3 Recessed Doors and Gates.** A door can be recessed due to wall thickness or because of the placement of casework and other fixed elements adjacent to the doorway. This provision must be applied wherever doors are recessed.



**Figure 404.2.4.3**  
**Maneuvering Clearances at Recessed Doors and Gates**

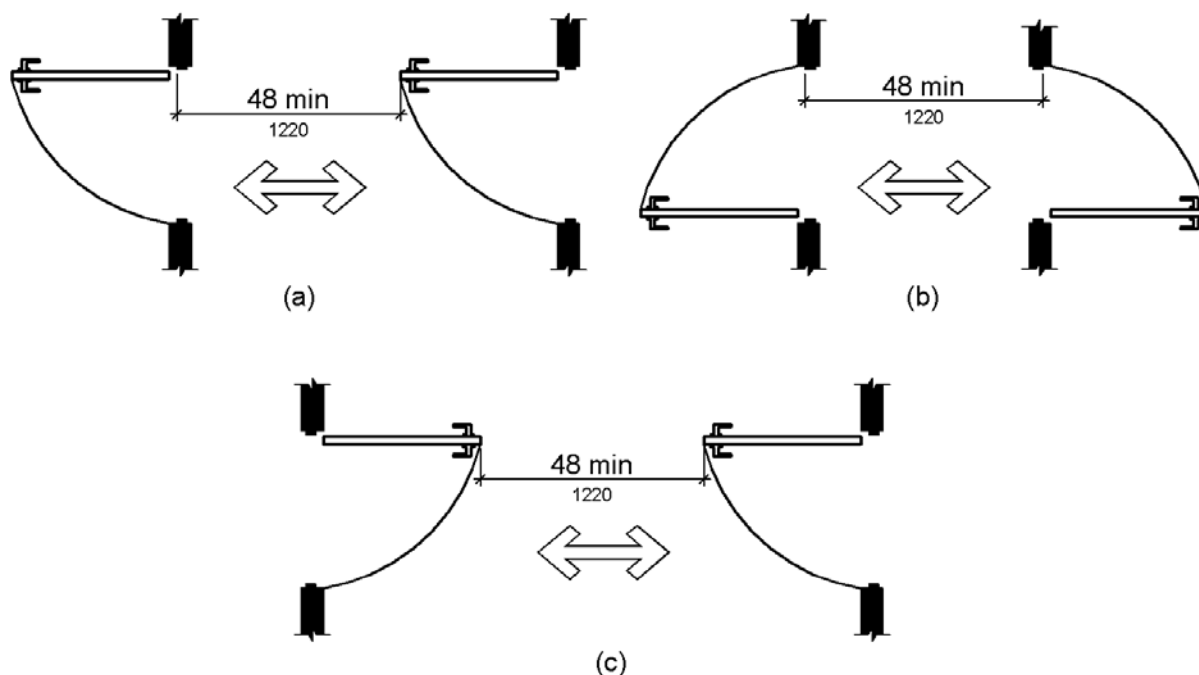
**404.2.4.4 Floor or Ground Surface.** Floor or ground surface within required maneuvering clearances shall comply with 302. Changes in level are not permitted.

- EXCEPTIONS:**
1. Slopes not steeper than 1:48 shall be permitted.
  2. Changes in level at thresholds complying with 404.2.5 shall be permitted.

**404.2.5 Thresholds.** Thresholds, if provided at doorways, shall be ½ inch (13 mm) high maximum. Raised thresholds and changes in level at doorways shall comply with 302 and 303.

**EXCEPTION:** Existing or *altered* thresholds ¾ inch (19 mm) high maximum that have a beveled edge on each side with a slope not steeper than 1:2 shall not be required to comply with 404.2.5.

**404.2.6 Doors in Series and Gates in Series.** The distance between two hinged or pivoted doors in series and gates in series shall be 48 inches (1220 mm) minimum plus the width of doors or gates swinging into the space.



**Figure 404.2.6**  
**Doors in Series and Gates in Series**

**404.2.7 Door and Gate Hardware.** Handles, pulls, latches, locks, and other *operable parts* on doors and gates shall comply with 309.4. *Operable parts* of such hardware shall be 34 inches (865 mm) minimum and 48 inches (1220 mm) maximum above the finish floor or ground. Where sliding doors are in the fully open position, operating hardware shall be exposed and usable from both sides.

**EXCEPTIONS:** 1. Existing locks shall be permitted in any location at existing glazed doors without stiles, existing overhead rolling doors or grilles, and similar existing doors or grilles that are designed with locks that are activated only at the top or bottom rail.

2. Access gates in barrier walls and fences protecting pools, spas, and hot tubs shall be permitted to have *operable parts* of the release of latch on self-latching devices at 54 inches (1370 mm) maximum above the finish floor or ground provided the self-latching devices are not also self-locking devices and operated by means of a key, electronic opener, or integral combination lock.

**Advisory 404.2.7 Door and Gate Hardware.** Door hardware that can be operated with a closed fist or a loose grip accommodates the greatest range of users. Hardware that requires simultaneous hand and finger movements require greater dexterity and coordination, and is not recommended.

**404.2.8 Closing Speed.** Door and gate closing speed shall comply with 404.2.8.

**404.2.8.1 Door Closers and Gate Closers.** Door closers and gate closers shall be adjusted so that from an open position of 90 degrees, the time required to move the door to a position of 12 degrees from the latch is 5 seconds minimum.

**404.2.8.2 Spring Hinges.** Door and gate spring hinges shall be adjusted so that from the open position of 70 degrees, the door or gate shall move to the closed position in 1.5 seconds minimum.

**404.2.9 Door and Gate Opening Force.** Fire doors shall have a minimum opening force allowable by the appropriate *administrative authority*. The force for pushing or pulling open a door or gate other than fire doors shall be as follows:

1. Interior hinged doors and gates: 5 pounds (22.2 N) maximum.
2. Sliding or folding doors: 5 pounds (22.2 N) maximum.

These forces do not apply to the force required to retract latch bolts or disengage other devices that hold the door or gate in a closed position.

**Advisory 404.2.9 Door and Gate Opening Force.** The maximum force pertains to the continuous application of force necessary to fully open a door, not the initial force needed to overcome the inertia of the door. It does not apply to the force required to retract bolts or to disengage other devices used to keep the door in a closed position.

**404.2.10 Door and Gate Surfaces.** Swinging door and gate surfaces within 10 inches (255 mm) of the finish floor or ground measured vertically shall have a smooth surface on the push side extending the full width of the door or gate. Parts creating horizontal or vertical joints in these surfaces shall be within 1/16 inch (1.6 mm) of the same plane as the other. Cavities created by added kick plates shall be capped.

- EXCEPTIONS:**
1. Sliding doors shall not be required to comply with 404.2.10.
  2. Tempered glass doors without stiles and having a bottom rail or shoe with the top leading edge tapered at 60 degrees minimum from the horizontal shall not be required to meet the 10 inch (255 mm) bottom smooth surface height requirement.
  3. Doors and gates that do not extend to within 10 inches (255 mm) of the finish floor or ground shall not be required to comply with 404.2.10.
  4. Existing doors and gates without smooth surfaces within 10 inches (255 mm) of the finish floor or ground shall not be required to provide smooth surfaces complying with 404.2.10 provided that if added kick plates are installed, cavities created by such kick plates are capped.

**404.2.11 Vision Lights.** Doors, gates, and side lights adjacent to doors or gates, containing one or more glazing panels that permit viewing through the panels shall have the bottom of at least one glazed panel located 43 inches (1090 mm) maximum above the finish floor.

**EXCEPTION:** Vision lights with the lowest part more than 66 inches (1675 mm) from the finish floor or ground shall not be required to comply with 404.2.11.

**404.3 Automatic and Power-Assisted Doors and Gates.** Automatic doors and automatic gates shall comply with 404.3. Full-powered automatic doors shall comply with ANSI/BHMA A156.10 (incorporated

by reference, see “Referenced Standards” in Chapter 1). Low-energy and power-assisted doors shall comply with ANSI/BHMA A156.19 (1997 or 2002 edition) (incorporated by reference, see “Referenced Standards” in Chapter 1).

**404.3.1 Clear Width.** Doorways shall provide a clear opening of 32 inches (815 mm) minimum in power-on and power-off mode. The minimum clear width for automatic door systems in a doorway shall be based on the clear opening provided by all leaves in the open position.

**404.3.2 Maneuvering Clearance.** Clearances at power-assisted doors and gates shall comply with 404.2.4. Clearances at automatic doors and gates without standby power and serving an *accessible means of egress* shall comply with 404.2.4.

**EXCEPTION:** Where automatic doors and gates remain open in the power-off condition, compliance with 404.2.4 shall not be required.

**404.3.3 Thresholds.** Thresholds and changes in level at doorways shall comply with 404.2.5.

**404.3.4 Doors in Series and Gates in Series.** Doors in series and gates in series shall comply with 404.2.6.

**404.3.5 Controls.** Manually operated controls shall comply with 309. The clear floor *space* adjacent to the control shall be located beyond the arc of the door swing.

**404.3.6 Break Out Opening.** Where doors and gates without standby power are a part of a means of egress, the clear break out opening at swinging or sliding doors and gates shall be 32 inches (815 mm) minimum when operated in emergency mode.

**EXCEPTION:** Where manual swinging doors and gates comply with 404.2 and serve the same means of egress compliance with 404.3.6 shall not be required.

**404.3.7 Revolving Doors, Revolving Gates, and Turnstiles.** Revolving doors, revolving gates, and turnstiles shall not be part of an *accessible* route.

## 405 Ramps

**405.1 General.** *Ramps* on *accessible* routes shall comply with 405.

**EXCEPTION:** In *assembly areas*, aisle *ramps* adjacent to seating and not serving *elements* required to be on an *accessible* route shall not be required to comply with 405.

**405.2 Slope.** *Ramp* runs shall have a *running slope* not steeper than 1:12.

**EXCEPTION:** In existing *sites, buildings, and facilities*, *ramps* shall be permitted to have *running slopes* steeper than 1:12 complying with Table 405.2 where such slopes are necessary due to *space* limitations.

**Table 405.2 Maximum Ramp Slope and Rise for Existing Sites, Buildings, and Facilities**

Slope <sup>1</sup>	Maximum Rise
Steeper than 1:10 but not steeper than 1:8	3 inches (75 mm)
Steeper than 1:12 but not steeper than 1:10	6 inches (150 mm)

1. A slope steeper than 1:8 is prohibited.

**Advisory 405.2 Slope.** To accommodate the widest range of users, provide ramps with the least possible running slope and, wherever possible, accompany ramps with stairs for use by those individuals for whom distance presents a greater barrier than steps, e.g., people with heart disease or limited stamina.

**405.3 Cross Slope.** *Cross slope of ramp runs shall not be steeper than 1:48.*

**Advisory 405.3 Cross Slope.** Cross slope is the slope of the surface perpendicular to the direction of travel. Cross slope is measured the same way as slope is measured (i.e., the rise over the run).

**405.4 Floor or Ground Surfaces.** Floor or ground surfaces of *ramp runs* shall comply with 302. Changes in level other than the *running slope* and *cross slope* are not permitted on *ramp runs*.

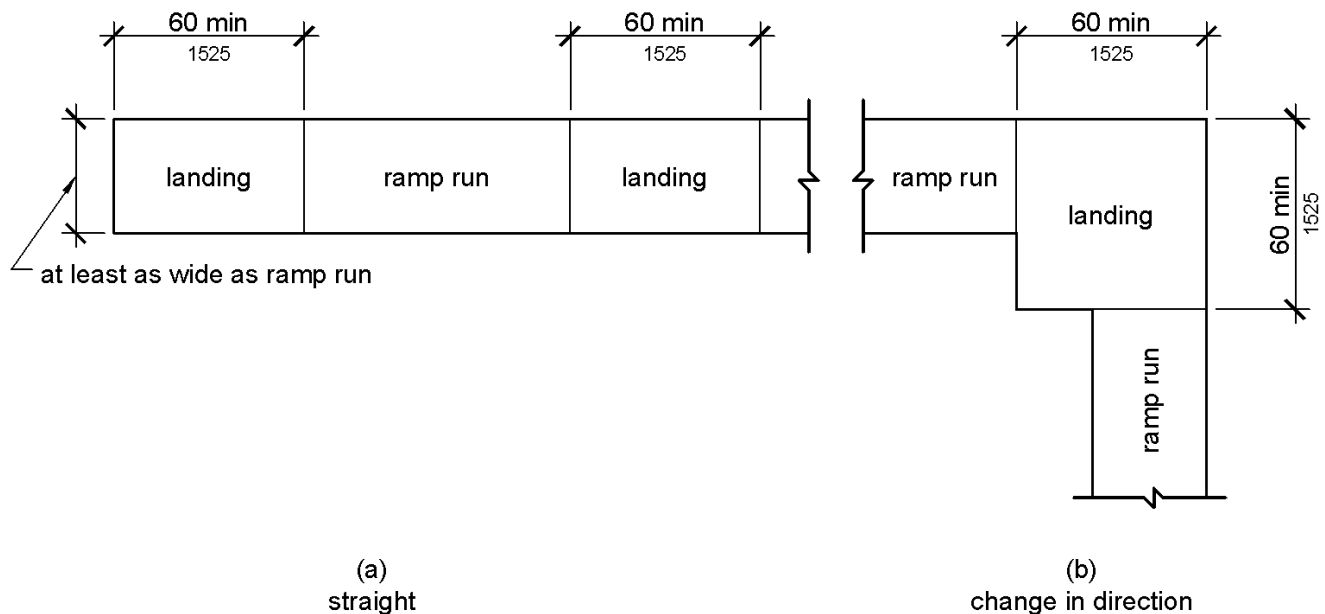
**405.5 Clear Width.** The clear width of a *ramp run* and, where handrails are provided, the clear width between handrails shall be 36 inches (915 mm) minimum.

**EXCEPTION:** Within *employee work areas*, the required clear width of *ramps* that are a part of *common use circulation paths* shall be permitted to be decreased by *work area equipment* provided that the decrease is essential to the function of the work being performed.

**405.6 Rise.** The rise for any *ramp run* shall be 30 inches (760 mm) maximum.

**405.7 Landings.** *Ramps* shall have landings at the top and the bottom of each *ramp run*. Landings shall comply with 405.7.

**Advisory 405.7 Landings.** Ramps that do not have level landings at changes in direction can create a compound slope that will not meet the requirements of this document. Circular or curved ramps continually change direction. Curvilinear ramps with small radii also can create compound cross slopes and cannot, by their nature, meet the requirements for accessible routes. A level landing is needed at the accessible door to permit maneuvering and simultaneously door operation.



**Figure 405.7**  
**Ramp Landings**

**405.7.1 Slope.** Landings shall comply with 302. Changes in level are not permitted.

**EXCEPTION:** Slopes not steeper than 1:48 shall be permitted.

**405.7.2 Width.** The landing clear width shall be at least as wide as the widest *ramp* run leading to the landing.

**405.7.3 Length.** The landing clear length shall be 60 inches (1525 mm) long minimum.

**405.7.4 Change in Direction.** *Ramps* that change direction between runs at landings shall have a clear landing 60 inches (1525 mm) minimum by 60 inches (1525 mm) minimum.

**405.7.5 Doorways.** Where doorways are located adjacent to a *ramp* landing, maneuvering clearances required by 404.2.4 and 404.3.2 shall be permitted to overlap the required landing area.

**405.8 Handrails.** *Ramp* runs with a rise greater than 6 inches (150 mm) shall have handrails complying with 505.

**EXCEPTION:** Within *employee work areas*, handrails shall not be required where *ramps* that are part of *common use circulation paths* are designed to permit the installation of handrails complying with 505. *Ramps* not subject to the exception to 405.5 shall be designed to maintain a 36 inch (915 mm) minimum clear width when handrails are installed.

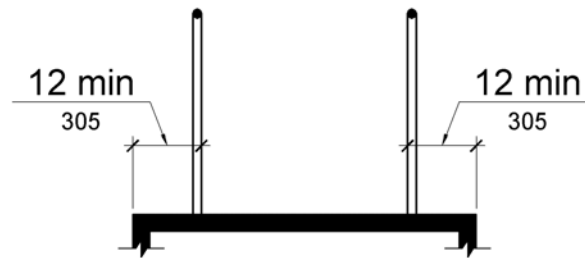
**405.9 Edge Protection.** Edge protection complying with 405.9.1 or 405.9.2 shall be provided on each side of *ramp* runs and at each side of *ramp* landings.



- EXCEPTIONS:** 1. Edge protection shall not be required on *ramps* that are not required to have handrails and have sides complying with 406.3.
2. Edge protection shall not be required on the sides of *ramp* landings serving an adjoining *ramp* run or stairway.
3. Edge protection shall not be required on the sides of *ramp* landings having a vertical drop-off of  $\frac{1}{2}$  inch (13 mm) maximum within 10 inches (255 mm) horizontally of the minimum landing area specified in 405.7.

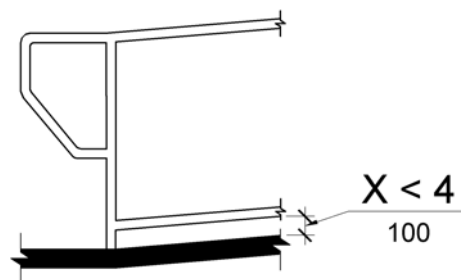
**405.9.1 Extended Floor or Ground Surface.** The floor or ground surface of the *ramp* run or landing shall extend 12 inches (305 mm) minimum beyond the inside face of a handrail complying with 505.

**Advisory 405.9.1 Extended Floor or Ground Surface.** The extended surface prevents wheelchair casters and crutch tips from slipping off the ramp surface.



**Figure 405.9.1**  
**Extended Floor or Ground Surface Edge Protection**

**405.9.2 Curb or Barrier.** A curb or barrier shall be provided that prevents the passage of a 4 inch (100 mm) diameter sphere, where any portion of the sphere is within 4 inches (100 mm) of the finish floor or ground surface.



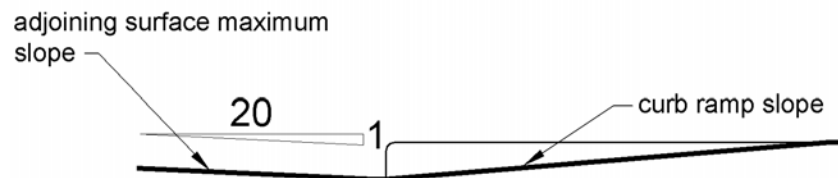
**Figure 405.9.2**  
**Curb or Barrier Edge Protection**

**405.10 Wet Conditions.** Landings subject to wet conditions shall be designed to prevent the accumulation of water.

## 406 Curb Ramps

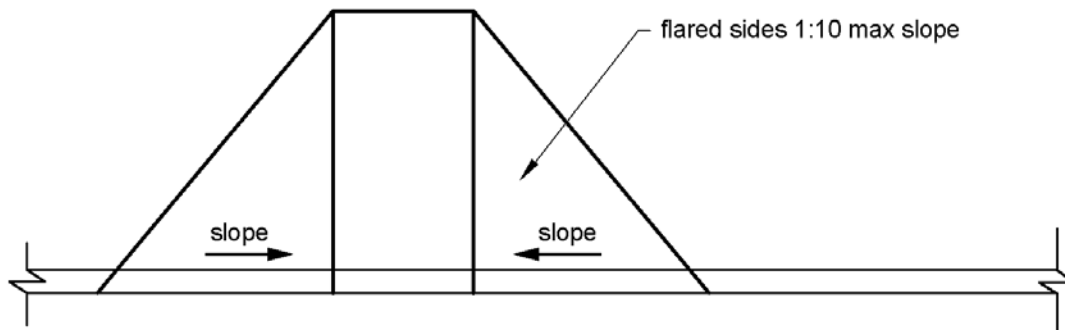
**406.1 General.** *Curb ramps* on *accessible* routes shall comply with 406, 405.2 through 405.5, and 405.10.

**406.2 Counter Slope.** Counter slopes of adjoining gutters and road surfaces immediately adjacent to the *curb ramp* shall not be steeper than 1:20. The adjacent surfaces at transitions at *curb ramps* to *walks*, *gutters*, and *streets* shall be at the same level.



**Figure 406.2**  
**Counter Slope of Surfaces Adjacent to Curb Ramps**

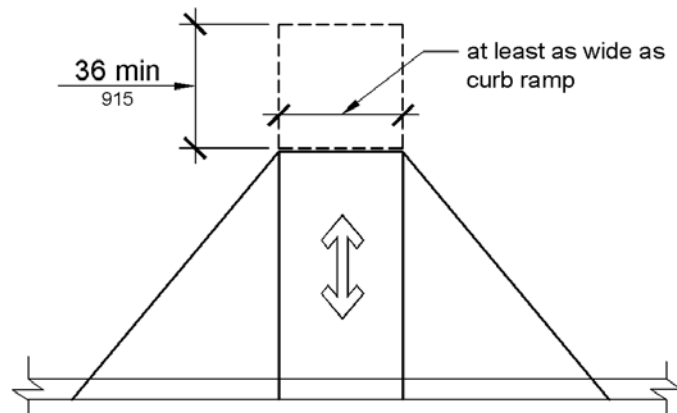
**406.3 Sides of Curb Ramps.** Where provided, *curb ramp* flares shall not be steeper than 1:10.



**Figure 406.3**  
**Sides of Curb Ramps**

**406.4 Landings.** Landings shall be provided at the tops of *curb ramps*. The landing clear length shall be 36 inches (915 mm) minimum. The landing clear width shall be at least as wide as the *curb ramp*, excluding flared sides, leading to the landing.

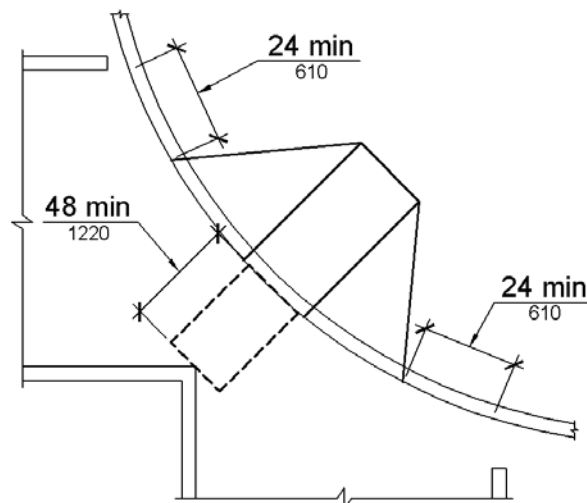
**EXCEPTION:** In *alterations*, where there is no landing at the top of *curb ramps*, *curb ramp* flares shall be provided and shall not be steeper than 1:12.



**Figure 406.4**  
**Landings at the Top of Curb Ramps**

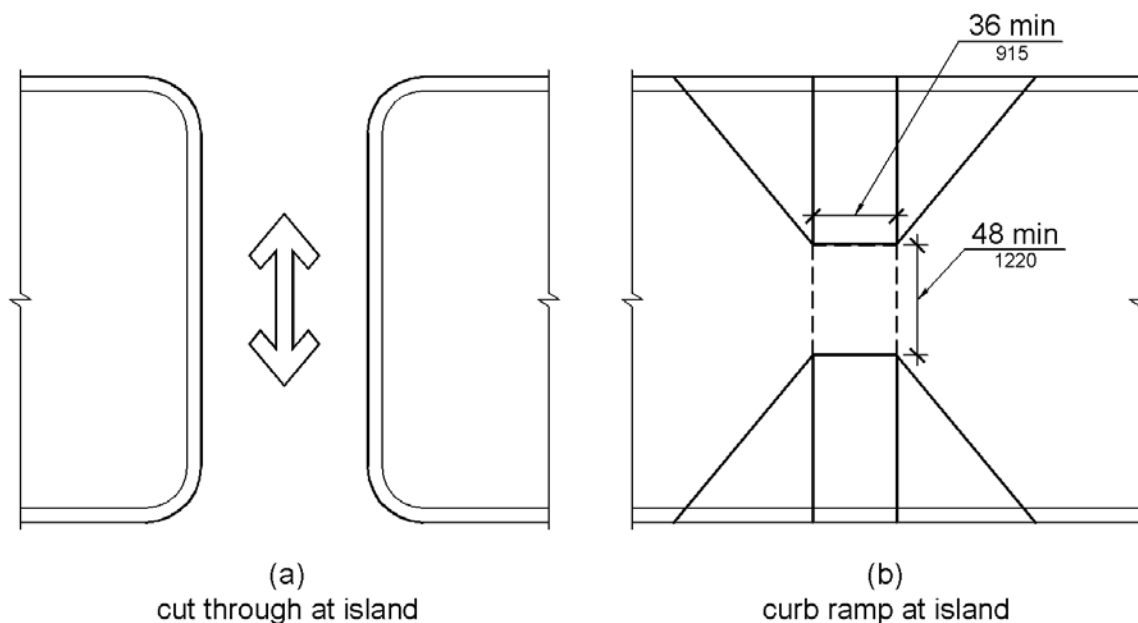
**406.5 Location.** *Curb ramps* and the flared sides of *curb ramps* shall be located so that they do not project into vehicular traffic lanes, parking spaces, or parking access aisles. *Curb ramps* at *marked crossings* shall be wholly contained within the markings, excluding any flared sides.

**406.6 Diagonal Curb Ramps.** Diagonal or corner type *curb ramps* with returned curbs or other well-defined edges shall have the edges parallel to the direction of pedestrian flow. The bottom of diagonal *curb ramps* shall have a clear space 48 inches (1220 mm) minimum outside active traffic lanes of the roadway. Diagonal *curb ramps* provided at *marked crossings* shall provide the 48 inches (1220 mm) minimum clear space within the markings. Diagonal *curb ramps* with flared sides shall have a segment of curb 24 inches (610 mm) long minimum located on each side of the *curb ramp* and within the *marked crossing*.



**Figure 406.6**  
**Diagonal or Corner Type Curb Ramps**

**406.7 Islands.** Raised islands in crossings shall be cut through level with the street or have *curb ramps* at both sides. Each *curb ramp* shall have a level area 48 inches (1220 mm) long minimum by 36 inches (915 mm) wide minimum at the top of the *curb ramp* in the part of the island intersected by the crossings. Each 48 inch (1220 mm) minimum by 36 inch (915 mm) minimum area shall be oriented so that the 48 inch (1220 mm) minimum length is in the direction of the *running slope* of the *curb ramp* it serves. The 48 inch (1220 mm) minimum by 36 inch (915 mm) minimum areas and the *accessible* route shall be permitted to overlap.



**Figure 406.7**  
**Islands in Crossings**

## 407 Elevators

**407.1 General.** Elevators shall comply with 407 and with ASME A17.1 (incorporated by reference, see “Referenced Standards” in Chapter 1). They shall be passenger elevators as classified by ASME A17.1. Elevator operation shall be automatic.

**Advisory 407.1 General.** The ADA and other Federal civil rights laws require that accessible features be maintained in working order so that they are accessible to and usable by those people they are intended to benefit. Building owners should note that the ASME Safety Code for Elevators and Escalators requires routine maintenance and inspections. Isolated or temporary interruptions in service due to maintenance or repairs may be unavoidable; however, failure to take prompt action to effect repairs could constitute a violation of Federal laws and these requirements.

**407.2 Elevator Landing Requirements.** Elevator landings shall comply with 407.2.

**407.2.1 Call Controls.** Where elevator call buttons or keypads are provided, they shall comply with 407.2.1 and 309.4. Call buttons shall be raised or flush.

**EXCEPTION:** Existing elevators shall be permitted to have recessed call buttons.

**407.2.1.1 Height.** Call buttons and keypads shall be located within one of the reach ranges specified in 308, measured to the centerline of the highest *operable part*.

**EXCEPTION:** Existing call buttons and existing keypads shall be permitted to be located at 54 inches (1370 mm) maximum above the finish floor, measured to the centerline of the highest *operable part*.

**407.2.1.2 Size.** Call buttons shall be  $\frac{3}{4}$  inch (19 mm) minimum in the smallest dimension.

**EXCEPTION:** Existing elevator call buttons shall not be required to comply with 407.2.1.2.

**407.2.1.3 Clear Floor or Ground Space.** A clear floor or ground *space* complying with 305 shall be provided at call controls.

**Advisory 407.2.1.3 Clear Floor or Ground Space.** The clear floor or ground space required at elevator call buttons must remain free of obstructions including ashtrays, plants, and other decorative elements that prevent wheelchair users and others from reaching the call buttons. The height of the clear floor or ground space is considered to be a volume from the floor to 80 inches (2030 mm) above the floor. Recessed ashtrays should not be placed near elevator call buttons so that persons who are blind or visually impaired do not inadvertently contact them or their contents as they reach for the call buttons.

**407.2.1.4 Location.** The call button that designates the up direction shall be located above the call button that designates the down direction.

**EXCEPTION:** Destination-oriented elevators shall not be required to comply with 407.2.1.4.

**Advisory 407.2.1.4 Location Exception.** A destination-oriented elevator system provides lobby controls enabling passengers to select floor stops, lobby indicators designating which elevator to use, and a car indicator designating the floors at which the car will stop. Responding cars are programmed for maximum efficiency by reducing the number of stops any passenger experiences.

**407.2.1.5 Signals.** Call buttons shall have visible signals to indicate when each call is registered and when each call is answered.

**EXCEPTIONS:** 1. Destination-oriented elevators shall not be required to comply with 407.2.1.5 provided that visible and audible signals complying with 407.2.2 indicating which elevator car to enter are provided.

2. Existing elevators shall not be required to comply with 407.2.1.5.

**407.2.1.6 Keypads.** Where keypads are provided, keypads shall be in a standard telephone keypad arrangement and shall comply with 407.4.7.2.

**407.2.2 Hall Signals.** Hall signals, including in-car signals, shall comply with 407.2.2.

**407.2.2.1 Visible and Audible Signals.** A visible and audible signal shall be provided at each hoistway entrance to indicate which car is answering a call and the car's direction of travel. Where in-car signals are provided, they shall be visible from the floor area adjacent to the hall call buttons.

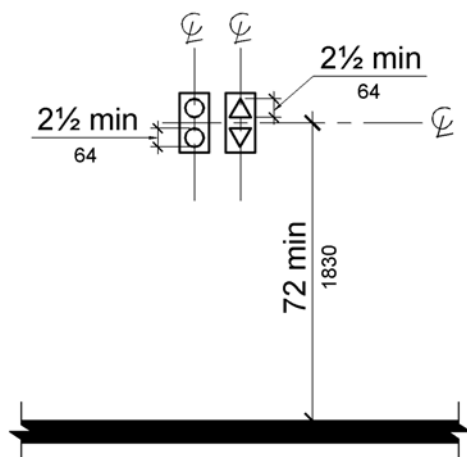
**EXCEPTIONS:** 1. Visible and audible signals shall not be required at each destination-oriented elevator where a visible and audible signal complying with 407.2.2 is provided indicating the elevator car designation information.

2. In existing elevators, a signal indicating the direction of car travel shall not be required.

**407.2.2.2 Visible Signals.** Visible signal fixtures shall be centered at 72 inches (1830 mm) minimum above the finish floor or ground. The visible signal *elements* shall be 2-½ inches (64 mm) minimum measured along the vertical centerline of the *element*. Signals shall be visible from the floor area adjacent to the hall call button.

**EXCEPTIONS:** 1. Destination-oriented elevators shall be permitted to have signals visible from the floor area adjacent to the hoistway entrance.

2. Existing elevators shall not be required to comply with 407.2.2.2.



**Figure 407.2.2.2**  
**Visible Hall Signals**

**407.2.2.3 Audible Signals.** Audible signals shall sound once for the up direction and twice for the down direction, or shall have verbal annunciators that indicate the direction of elevator car travel. Audible signals shall have a frequency of 1500 Hz maximum. Verbal annunciators shall have a frequency of 300 Hz minimum and 3000 Hz maximum. The audible signal and verbal annunciator shall be 10 dB minimum above ambient, but shall not exceed 80 dB, measured at the hall call button.

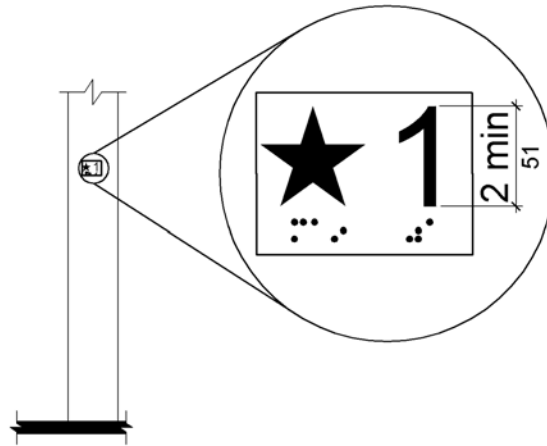
**EXCEPTIONS:** 1. Destination-oriented elevators shall not be required to comply with 407.2.2.3 provided that the audible tone and verbal announcement is the same as those given at the call button or call button keypad.

2. Existing elevators shall not be required to comply with the requirements for frequency and dB range of audible signals.

**407.2.2.4 Differentiation.** Each destination-oriented elevator in a bank of elevators shall have audible and visible means for differentiation.

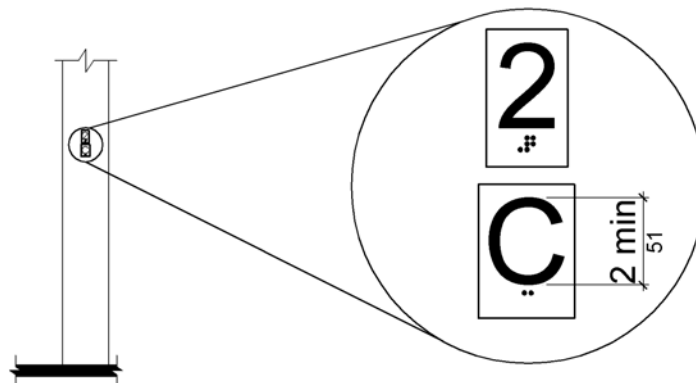
**407.2.3 Hoistway Signs.** Signs at elevator hoistways shall comply with 407.2.3.

**407.2.3.1 Floor Designation.** Floor designations complying with 703.2 and 703.4.1 and shall be provided on both jambs of elevator hoistway entrances. Floor designations shall be provided in both *tactile characters* and braille. *Tactile characters* shall be 2 inches (51 mm) high minimum. A *tactile star* shall be provided on both jambs at the main entry level.



**Figure 407.2.3.1**  
**Floor Designations on Jambs of Elevator Hoistway Entrances**

**407.2.3.2 Car Designations.** Destination-oriented elevators shall provide *tactile car identification* complying with 703.2 on both jambs of the hoistway immediately below the floor designation. Car designations shall be provided in both *tactile characters* and braille. *Tactile characters* shall be 2 inches (51 mm) high minimum.



**Figure 407.2.3.2**  
**Car Designations on Jambs of Destination-Oriented Elevator Hoistway Entrances**

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**407.3 Elevator Door Requirements.** Hoistway and car doors shall comply with 407.3.

**407.3.1 Type.** Elevator doors shall be the horizontal sliding type. Car gates shall be prohibited.

**407.3.2 Operation.** Elevator hoistway and car doors shall open and close automatically.

**EXCEPTION:** Existing manually operated hoistway swing doors shall be permitted provided that they comply with 404.2.3 and 404.2.9. Car door closing shall not be initiated until the hoistway door is closed.

**407.3.3 Reopening Device.** Elevator doors shall be provided with a reopening device complying with 407.3.3 that shall stop and reopen a car door and hoistway door automatically if the door becomes obstructed by an object or person.

**EXCEPTION:** Existing elevators with manually operated doors shall not be required to comply with 407.3.3.

**407.3.3.1 Height.** The device shall be activated by sensing an obstruction passing through the opening at 5 inches (125 mm) nominal and 29 inches (735 mm) nominal above the finish floor.

**407.3.3.2 Contact.** The device shall not require physical contact to be activated, although contact is permitted to occur before the door reverses.

**407.3.3.3 Duration.** Door reopening devices shall remain effective for 20 seconds minimum.

**407.3.4 Door and Signal Timing.** The minimum acceptable time from notification that a car is answering a call or notification of the car assigned at the means for the entry of destination information until the doors of that car start to close shall be calculated from the following equation:

$T = D/(1.5 \text{ ft/s})$  or  $T = D/(455 \text{ mm/s}) = 5 \text{ seconds minimum}$  where T equals the total time in seconds and D equals the distance (in feet or millimeters) from the point in the lobby or corridor 60 inches (1525 mm) directly in front of the farthest call button controlling that car to the centerline of its hoistway door.

**EXCEPTIONS:** 1. For cars with in-car lanterns, T shall be permitted to begin when the signal is visible from the point 60 inches (1525 mm) directly in front of the farthest hall call button and the audible signal is sounded.

2. Destination-oriented elevators shall not be required to comply with 407.3.4.

**407.3.5 Door Delay.** Elevator doors shall remain fully open in response to a car call for 3 seconds minimum.

**407.3.6 Width.** The width of elevator doors shall comply with Table 407.4.1.

**EXCEPTION:** In existing elevators, a power-operated car door complying with 404.2.3 shall be permitted.

**407.4 Elevator Car Requirements.** Elevator cars shall comply with 407.4.

**407.4.1 Car Dimensions.** Inside dimensions of elevator cars and clear width of elevator doors shall comply with Table 407.4.1.

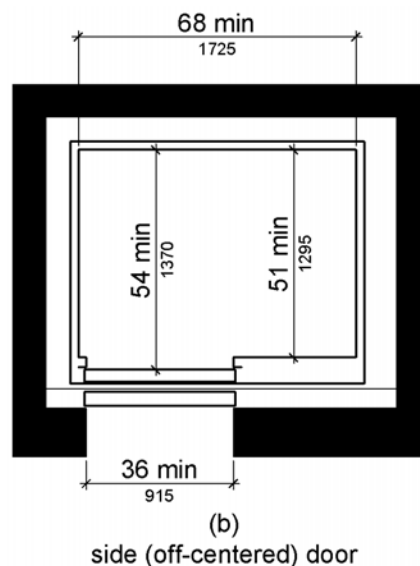
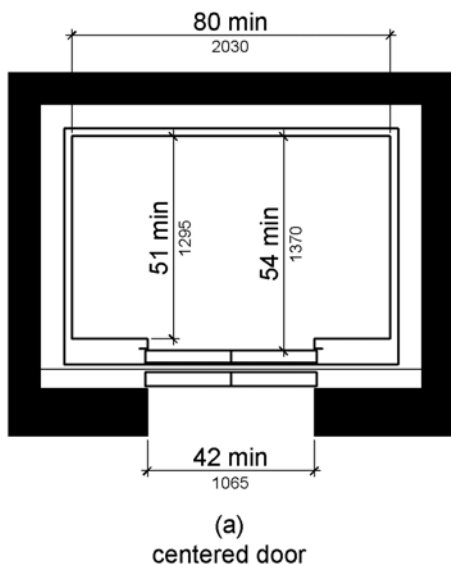


**EXCEPTION:** Existing elevator car configurations that provide a clear floor area of 16 square feet (1.5 m<sup>2</sup>) minimum and also provide an inside clear depth 54 inches (1370 mm) minimum and a clear width 36 inches (915 mm) minimum shall be permitted.

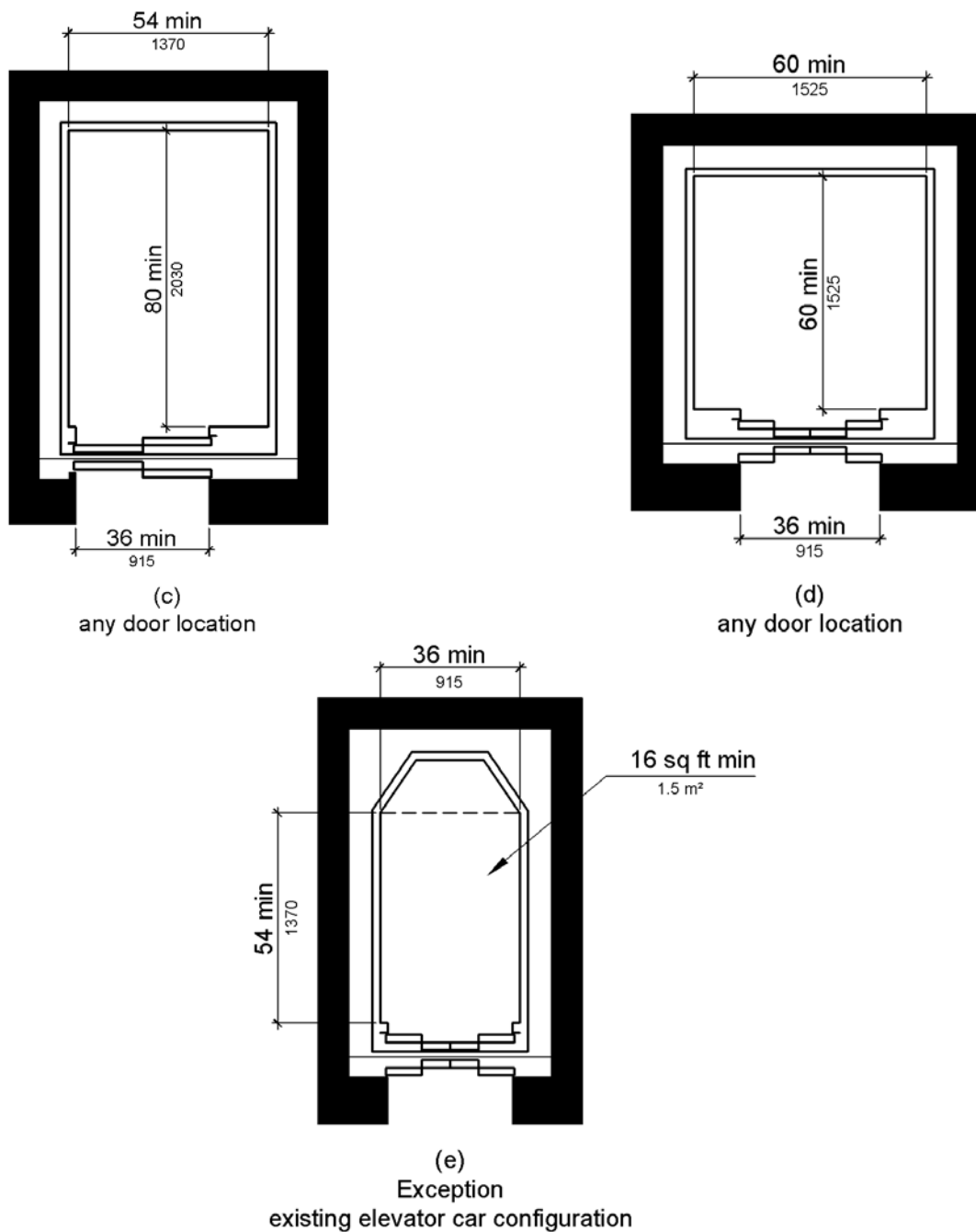
**Table 407.4.1 Elevator Car Dimensions**

Door Location	Minimum Dimensions			
	Door Clear Width	Inside Car, Side to Side	Inside Car, Back Wall to Front Return	Inside Car, Back Wall to Inside Face of Door
Centered	42 inches (1065 mm)	80 inches (2030 mm)	51 inches (1295 mm)	54 inches (1370 mm)
Side (off-centered)	36 inches (915 mm) <sup>1</sup>	68 inches (1725 mm)	51 inches (1295 mm)	54 inches (1370 mm)
Any	36 inches (915 mm) <sup>1</sup>	54 inches (1370 mm)	80 inches (2030 mm)	80 inches (2030 mm)
Any	36 inches (915 mm) <sup>1</sup>	60 inches (1525 mm) <sup>2</sup>	60 inches (1525 mm) <sup>2</sup>	60 inches (1525 mm) <sup>2</sup>

1. A tolerance of minus 5/8 inch (16 mm) is permitted.
2. Other car configurations that provide a turning space complying with 304 with the door closed shall be permitted.



**Figure 407.4.1  
Elevator Car Dimensions**



**Figure 407.4.1**  
**Elevator Car Dimensions**

**407.4.2 Floor Surfaces.** Floor surfaces in elevator cars shall comply with 302 and 303.

**407.4.3 Platform to Hoistway Clearance.** The clearance between the car platform sill and the edge of any hoistway landing shall be 1¼ inch (32 mm) maximum.

**407.4.4 Leveling.** Each car shall be equipped with a self-leveling feature that will automatically bring and maintain the car at floor landings within a tolerance of ½ inch (13 mm) under rated loading to zero loading conditions.

**407.4.5 Illumination.** The level of illumination at the car controls, platform, car threshold and car landing sill shall be 5 foot candles (54 lux) minimum.

**407.4.6 Elevator Car Controls.** Where provided, elevator car controls shall comply with 407.4.6 and 309.4.

**EXCEPTION:** In existing elevators, where a new car operating panel complying with 407.4.6 is provided, existing car operating panels shall not be required to comply with 407.4.6.

**407.4.6.1 Location.** Controls shall be located within one of the reach ranges specified in 308.

**EXCEPTIONS:** 1. Where the elevator panel serves more than 16 openings and a parallel approach is provided, buttons with floor designations shall be permitted to be 54 inches (1370 mm) maximum above the finish floor.

2. In existing elevators, car control buttons with floor designations shall be permitted to be located 54 inches (1370 mm) maximum above the finish floor where a parallel approach is provided.

**407.4.6.2 Buttons.** Car control buttons with floor designations shall comply with 407.4.6.2 and shall be raised or flush.

**EXCEPTION:** In existing elevators, buttons shall be permitted to be recessed.

**407.4.6.2.1 Size.** Buttons shall be ¾ inch (19 mm) minimum in their smallest dimension.

**407.4.6.2.2 Arrangement.** Buttons shall be arranged with numbers in ascending order. When two or more columns of buttons are provided they shall read from left to right.

**407.4.6.3 Keypads.** Car control keypads shall be in a standard telephone keypad arrangement and shall comply with 407.4.7.2.

**407.4.6.4 Emergency Controls.** Emergency controls shall comply with 407.4.6.4.

**407.4.6.4.1 Height.** Emergency control buttons shall have their centerlines 35 inches (890 mm) minimum above the finish floor.

**407.4.6.4.2 Location.** Emergency controls, including the emergency alarm, shall be grouped at the bottom of the panel.

**407.4.7 Designations and Indicators of Car Controls.** Designations and indicators of car controls shall comply with 407.4.7.

**EXCEPTION:** In existing elevators, where a new car operating panel complying with 407.4.7 is provided, existing car operating panels shall not be required to comply with 407.4.7.

**407.4.7.1 Buttons.** Car control buttons shall comply with 407.4.7.1.







**407.4.7.1.1 Type.** Control buttons shall be identified by *tactile characters* complying with 703.2.

**407.4.7.1.2 Location.** Raised *character* and braille designations shall be placed immediately to the left of the control button to which the designations apply.

**EXCEPTION:** Where *space* on an existing car operating panel precludes *tactile* markings to the left of the controls, markings shall be placed as near to the control as possible.

**407.4.7.1.3 Symbols.** The control button for the emergency stop, alarm, door open, door close, main entry floor, and phone, shall be identified with *tactile* symbols as shown in Table 407.4.7.1.3.

**Table 407.4.7.1.3 Elevator Control Button Identification**

Control Button	Tactile Symbol	Braille Message
Emergency Stop		 ⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠ “ST”OP” Three cells
Alarm		 ⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠ AL “AR”M Four cells
Door Open		 ⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠ OP “EN” Three cells
Door Close		 ⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠ CLOSE Five cells
Main Entry Floor		 ⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠ MA “IN” Three cells
Phone		 ⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠ PH “ONE” Four cells

**407.4.7.1.4 Visible Indicators.** Buttons with floor designations shall be provided with visible indicators to show that a call has been registered. The visible indication shall extinguish when the car arrives at the designated floor.

**407.4.7.2 Keypads.** Keypads shall be identified by *characters* complying with 703.5 and shall be centered on the corresponding keypad button. The number five key shall have a single raised dot. The dot shall be 0.118 inch (3 mm) to 0.120 inch (3.05 mm) base diameter and in other aspects comply with Table 703.3.1.

**407.4.8 Car Position Indicators.** Audible and visible car position indicators shall be provided in elevator cars.

**407.4.8.1 Visible Indicators.** Visible indicators shall comply with 407.4.8.1.

**407.4.8.1.1 Size.** *Characters* shall be ½ inch (13 mm) high minimum.

**407.4.8.1.2 Location.** Indicators shall be located above the car control panel or above the door.

**407.4.8.1.3 Floor Arrival.** As the car passes a floor and when a car stops at a floor served by the elevator, the corresponding *character* shall illuminate.

**EXCEPTION:** Destination-oriented elevators shall not be required to comply with 407.4.8.1.3 provided that the visible indicators extinguish when the call has been answered.

**407.4.8.1.4 Destination Indicator.** In destination-oriented elevators, a display shall be provided in the car with visible indicators to show car destinations.

**407.4.8.2 Audible Indicators.** Audible indicators shall comply with 407.4.8.2.

**407.4.8.2.1 Signal Type.** The signal shall be an automatic verbal annunciator which announces the floor at which the car is about to stop.

**EXCEPTION:** For elevators other than destination-oriented elevators that have a rated speed of 200 feet per minute (1 m/s) or less, a non-verbal audible signal with a frequency of 1500 Hz maximum which sounds as the car passes or is about to stop at a floor served by the elevator shall be permitted.

**407.4.8.2.2 Signal Level.** The verbal annunciator shall be 10 dB minimum above ambient, but shall not exceed 80 dB, measured at the annunciator.

**407.4.8.2.3 Frequency.** The verbal annunciator shall have a frequency of 300 Hz minimum to 3000 Hz maximum.

**407.4.9 Emergency Communication.** Emergency two-way communication systems shall comply with 308. *Tactile* symbols and *characters* shall be provided adjacent to the device and shall comply with 703.2.

## 408 Limited-Use/Limited-Application Elevators

**408.1 General.** Limited-use/limited-application elevators shall comply with 408 and with ASME A17.1 (incorporated by reference, see “Referenced Standards” in Chapter 1). They shall be passenger elevators as classified by ASME A17.1. Elevator operation shall be automatic.

**408.2 Elevator Landings.** Landings serving limited-use/limited-application elevators shall comply with 408.2.

**408.2.1 Call Buttons.** Elevator call buttons and keypads shall comply with 407.2.1.

**408.2.2 Hall Signals.** Hall signals shall comply with 407.2.2.

**408.2.3 Hoistway Signs.** Signs at elevator hoistways shall comply with 407.2.3.1.

**408.3 Elevator Doors.** Elevator hoistway doors shall comply with 408.3.

**408.3.1 Sliding Doors.** Sliding hoistway and car doors shall comply with 407.3.1 through 407.3.3 and 408.4.1.

**408.3.2 Swinging Doors.** Swinging hoistway doors shall open and close automatically and shall comply with 404, 407.3.2 and 408.3.2.

**408.3.2.1 Power Operation.** Swinging doors shall be power-operated and shall comply with ANSI/BHMA A156.19 (1997 or 2002 edition) (incorporated by reference, see “Referenced Standards” in Chapter 1).

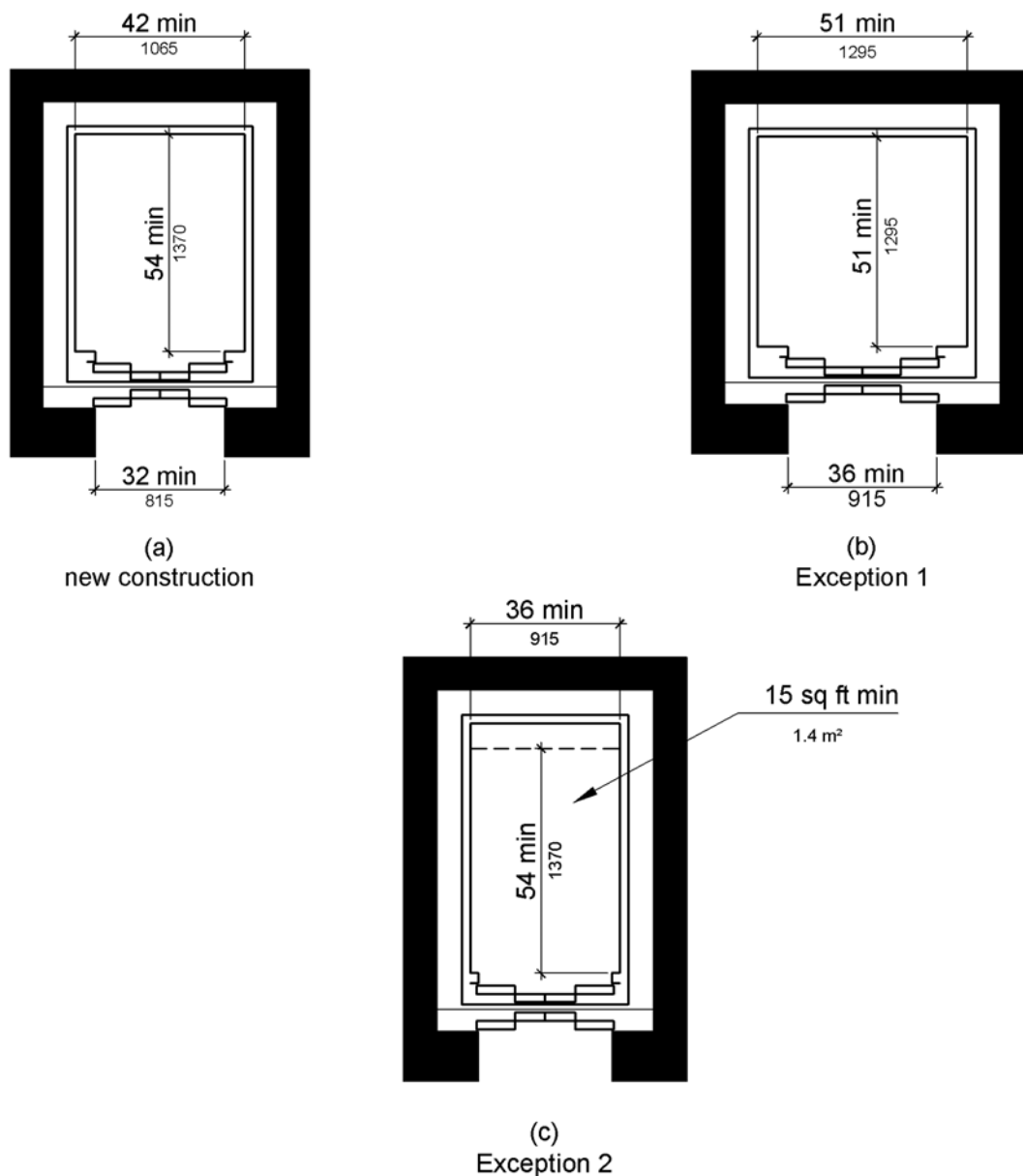
**408.3.2.2 Duration.** Power-operated swinging doors shall remain open for 20 seconds minimum when activated.

**408.4 Elevator Cars.** Elevator cars shall comply with 408.4.

**408.4.1 Car Dimensions and Doors.** Elevator cars shall provide a clear width 42 inches (1065 mm) minimum and a clear depth 54 inches (1370 mm) minimum. Car doors shall be positioned at the narrow ends of cars and shall provide 32 inches (815 mm) minimum clear width.

**EXCEPTIONS:** 1. Cars that provide a clear width 51 inches (1295 mm) minimum shall be permitted to provide a clear depth 51 inches (1295 mm) minimum provided that car doors provide a clear opening 36 inches (915 mm) wide minimum.

2. Existing elevator cars shall be permitted to provide a clear width 36 inches (915 mm) minimum, clear depth 54 inches (1370 mm) minimum, and a net clear platform area 15 square feet (1.4 m<sup>2</sup>) minimum.



**Figure 408.4.1**  
**Limited-Use/Limited-Application (LULA) Elevator Car Dimensions**

**408.4.2 Floor Surfaces.** Floor surfaces in elevator cars shall comply with 302 and 303.

**408.4.3 Platform to Hoistway Clearance.** The platform to hoistway clearance shall comply with 407.4.3.

**408.4.4 Leveling.** Elevator car leveling shall comply with 407.4.4.

**408.4.5 Illumination.** Elevator car illumination shall comply with 407.4.5.

**408.4.6 Car Controls.** Elevator car controls shall comply with 407.4.6. Control panels shall be centered on a side wall.

**408.4.7 Designations and Indicators of Car Controls.** Designations and indicators of car controls shall comply with 407.4.7.

**408.4.8 Emergency Communications.** Car emergency signaling devices complying with 407.4.9 shall be provided.

## **409 Private Residence Elevators**

**409.1 General.** Private residence elevators that are provided within a *residential dwelling unit* required to provide mobility features complying with 809.2 through 809.4 shall comply with 409 and with ASME A17.1 (incorporated by reference, see “Referenced Standards” in Chapter 1). They shall be passenger elevators as classified by ASME A17.1. Elevator operation shall be automatic.

**409.2 Call Buttons.** Call buttons shall be ¾ inch (19 mm) minimum in the smallest dimension and shall comply with 309.

**409.3 Elevator Doors.** Hoistway doors, car doors, and car gates shall comply with 409.3 and 404.

**EXCEPTION:** Doors shall not be required to comply with the maneuvering clearance requirements in 404.2.4.1 for approaches to the push side of swinging doors.

**409.3.1 Power Operation.** Elevator car and hoistway doors and gates shall be power operated and shall comply with ANSI/BHMA A156.19 (1997 or 2002 edition) (incorporated by reference, see “Referenced Standards” in Chapter 1). Power operated doors and gates shall remain open for 20 seconds minimum when activated.

**EXCEPTION:** In elevator cars with more than one opening, hoistway doors and gates shall be permitted to be of the manual-open, self-close type.

**409.3.2 Location.** Elevator car doors or gates shall be positioned at the narrow end of the clear floor spaces required by 409.4.1.

**409.4 Elevator Cars.** Private residence elevator cars shall comply with 409.4.

**409.4.1 Inside Dimensions of Elevator Cars.** Elevator cars shall provide a clear floor space of 36 inches (915 mm) minimum by 48 inches (1220 mm) minimum and shall comply with 305.

**409.4.2 Floor Surfaces.** Floor surfaces in elevator cars shall comply with 302 and 303.

**409.4.3 Platform to Hoistway Clearance.** The clearance between the car platform and the edge of any landing sill shall be 1½ inch (38 mm) maximum.

**409.4.4 Leveling.** Each car shall automatically stop at a floor landing within a tolerance of ½ inch (13 mm) under rated loading to zero loading conditions.

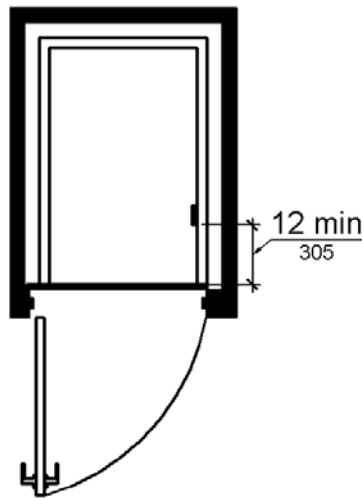


**409.4.5 Illumination Levels.** Elevator car illumination shall comply with 407.4.5.

**409.4.6 Car Controls.** Elevator car control buttons shall comply with 409.4.6, 309.3, 309.4, and shall be raised or flush.

**409.4.6.1 Size.** Control buttons shall be 3/4 inch (19 mm) minimum in their smallest dimension.

**409.4.6.2 Location.** Control panels shall be on a side wall, 12 inches (305 mm) minimum from any adjacent wall.



**Figure 409.4.6.2**  
**Location of Private Residence Elevator Control Panel**

**409.4.7 Emergency Communications.** Emergency two-way communication systems shall comply with 409.4.7.

**409.4.7.1 Type.** A telephone and emergency signal device shall be provided in the car.

**409.4.7.2 Operable Parts.** The telephone and emergency signaling device shall comply with 309.3 and 309.4.

**409.4.7.3 Compartment.** If the telephone or device is in a closed compartment, the compartment door hardware shall comply with 309.

**409.4.7.4 Cord.** The telephone cord shall be 29 inches (735 mm) long minimum.

## 410 Platform Lifts

**410.1 General.** Platform lifts shall comply with ASME A18.1 (1999 edition or 2003 edition) (incorporated by reference, see “Referenced Standards” in Chapter 1). Platform lifts shall not be attendant-operated and shall provide unassisted entry and exit from the lift.

**Advisory 410.1 General.** Inclined stairway chairlifts and inclined and vertical platform lifts are available for short-distance vertical transportation. Because an accessible route requires an 80 inch (2030 mm) vertical clearance, care should be taken in selecting lifts as they may not be equally suitable for use by people using wheelchairs and people standing. If a lift does not provide 80 inch (2030 mm) vertical clearance, it cannot be considered part of an accessible route in new construction.

The ADA and other Federal civil rights laws require that accessible features be maintained in working order so that they are accessible to and usable by those people they are intended to benefit. Building owners are reminded that the ASME A18 Safety Standard for Platform Lifts and Stairway Chairlifts requires routine maintenance and inspections. Isolated or temporary interruptions in service due to maintenance or repairs may be unavoidable; however, failure to take prompt action to effect repairs could constitute a violation of Federal laws and these requirements.

**410.2 Floor Surfaces.** Floor surfaces in platform lifts shall comply with 302 and 303.

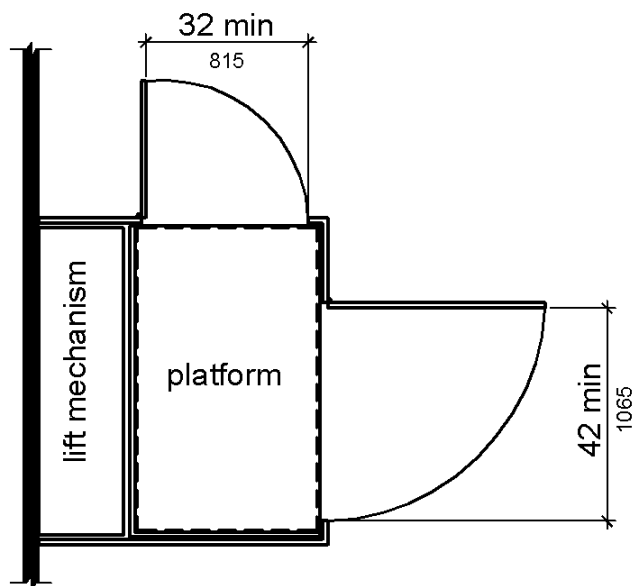
**410.3 Clear Floor Space.** Clear floor space in platform lifts shall comply with 305.

**410.4 Platform to Runway Clearance.** The clearance between the platform sill and the edge of any runway landing shall be 1¼ inch (32 mm) maximum.

**410.5 Operable Parts.** Controls for platform lifts shall comply with 309.

**410.6 Doors and Gates.** Platform lifts shall have low-energy power-operated doors or gates complying with 404.3. Doors shall remain open for 20 seconds minimum. End doors and gates shall provide a clear width 32 inches (815 mm) minimum. Side doors and gates shall provide a clear width 42 inches (1065 mm) minimum.

**EXCEPTION:** Platform lifts serving two landings maximum and having doors or gates on opposite sides shall be permitted to have self-closing manual doors or gates.



**Figure 410.6**  
**Platform Lift Doors and Gates**

## CHAPTER 5: GENERAL SITE AND BUILDING ELEMENTS

### 501 General

**501.1 Scope.** The provisions of Chapter 5 shall apply where required by Chapter 2 or where referenced by a requirement in this document.

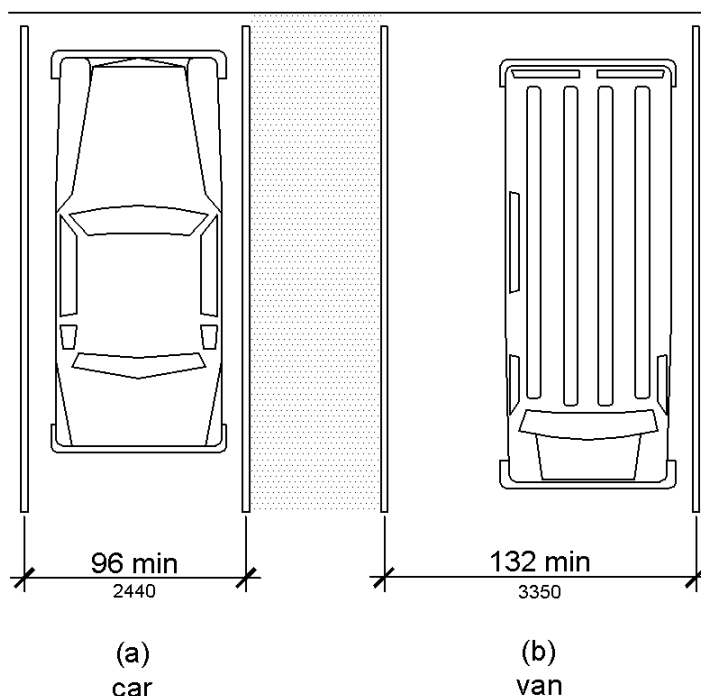
### 502 Parking Spaces

**502.1 General.** Car and van parking *spaces* shall comply with 502. Where parking *spaces* are marked with lines, width measurements of parking *spaces* and access aisles shall be made from the centerline of the markings.

**EXCEPTION:** Where parking *spaces* or access aisles are not adjacent to another parking *space* or access aisle, measurements shall be permitted to include the full width of the line defining the parking *space* or access aisle.

**502.2 Vehicle Spaces.** Car parking *spaces* shall be 96 inches (2440 mm) wide minimum and van parking *spaces* shall be 132 inches (3350 mm) wide minimum, shall be marked to define the width, and shall have an adjacent access aisle complying with 502.3.

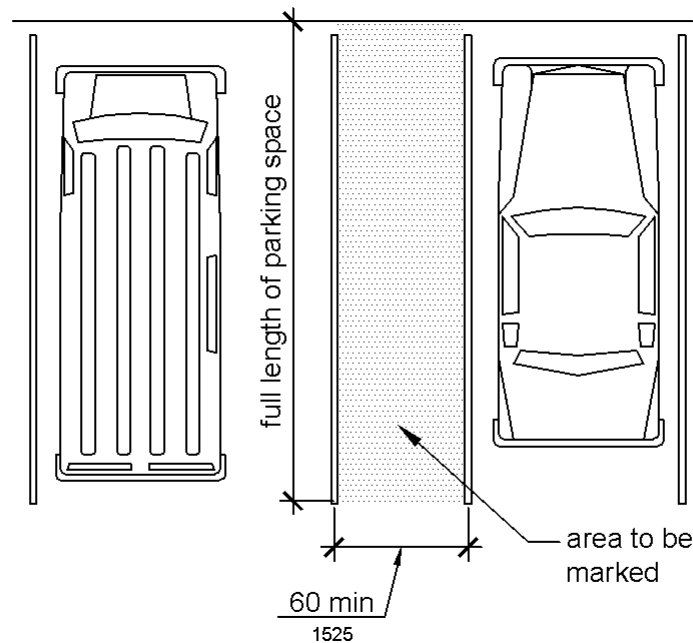
**EXCEPTION:** Van parking *spaces* shall be permitted to be 96 inches (2440 mm) wide minimum where the access aisle is 96 inches (2440 mm) wide minimum.



**Figure 502.2**  
**Vehicle Parking Spaces**

**502.3 Access Aisle.** Access aisles serving parking spaces shall comply with 502.3. Access aisles shall adjoin an *accessible* route. Two parking spaces shall be permitted to share a common access aisle.

**Advisory 502.3 Access Aisle.** Accessible routes must connect parking spaces to accessible entrances. In parking facilities where the accessible route must cross vehicular traffic lanes, marked crossings enhance pedestrian safety, particularly for people using wheelchairs and other mobility aids. Where possible, it is preferable that the accessible route not pass behind parked vehicles.



**Figure 502.3**  
**Parking Space Access Aisle**

**502.3.1 Width.** Access aisles serving car and van parking spaces shall be 60 inches (1525 mm) wide minimum.

**502.3.2 Length.** Access aisles shall extend the full length of the parking spaces they serve.

**502.3.3 Marking.** Access aisles shall be marked so as to discourage parking in them.

**Advisory 502.3.3 Marking.** The method and color of marking are not specified by these requirements but may be addressed by State or local laws or regulations. Because these requirements permit the van access aisle to be as wide as a parking space, it is important that the aisle be clearly marked.

**502.3.4 Location.** Access aisles shall not overlap the *vehicular way*. Access aisles shall be permitted to be placed on either side of the parking *space* except for angled van parking *spaces* which shall have access aisles located on the passenger side of the parking *spaces*.

**Advisory 502.3.4 Location.** Wheelchair lifts typically are installed on the passenger side of vans. Many drivers, especially those who operate vans, find it more difficult to back into parking spaces than to back out into comparatively unrestricted vehicular lanes. For this reason, where a van and car share an access aisle, consider locating the van space so that the access aisle is on the passenger side of the van space.

**502.4 Floor or Ground Surfaces.** Parking *spaces* and access aisles serving them shall comply with 302. Access aisles shall be at the same level as the parking *spaces* they serve. Changes in level are not permitted.

**EXCEPTION:** Slopes not steeper than 1:48 shall be permitted.

**Advisory 502.4 Floor or Ground Surfaces.** Access aisles are required to be nearly level in all directions to provide a surface for wheelchair transfer to and from vehicles. The exception allows sufficient slope for drainage. Built-up curb ramps are not permitted to project into access aisles and parking spaces because they would create slopes greater than 1:48.

**502.5 Vertical Clearance.** Parking *spaces* for vans and access aisles and vehicular routes serving them shall provide a vertical clearance of 98 inches (2490 mm) minimum.

**Advisory 502.5 Vertical Clearance.** Signs provided at entrances to parking facilities informing drivers of clearances and the location of van accessible parking spaces can provide useful customer assistance.

**502.6 Identification.** Parking *space* identification signs shall include the International Symbol of *Accessibility* complying with 703.7.2.1. Signs identifying van parking *spaces* shall contain the designation “van accessible.” Signs shall be 60 inches (1525 mm) minimum above the finish floor or ground surface measured to the bottom of the sign.

**Advisory 502.6 Identification.** The required “van accessible” designation is intended to be informative, not restrictive, in identifying those spaces that are better suited for van use. Enforcement of motor vehicle laws, including parking privileges, is a local matter.

**502.7 Relationship to Accessible Routes.** Parking *spaces* and access aisles shall be designed so that cars and vans, when parked, cannot obstruct the required clear width of adjacent *accessible* routes.

**Advisory 502.7 Relationship to Accessible Routes.** Wheel stops are an effective way to prevent vehicle overhangs from reducing the clear width of accessible routes.

### 503 Passenger Loading Zones

**503.1 General.** Passenger loading zones shall comply with 503.

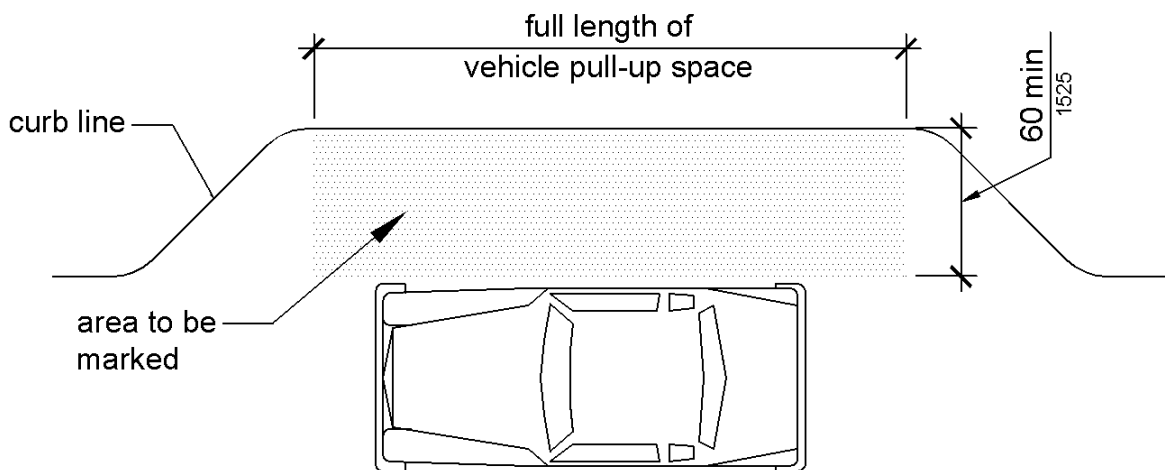
**503.2 Vehicle Pull-Up Space.** Passenger loading zones shall provide a vehicular pull-up *space* 96 inches (2440 mm) wide minimum and 20 feet (6100 mm) long minimum.

**503.3 Access Aisle.** Passenger loading zones shall provide access aisles complying with 503 adjacent to the vehicle pull-up space. Access aisles shall adjoin an *accessible* route and shall not overlap the *vehicular way*.

**503.3.1 Width.** Access aisles serving vehicle pull-up *spaces* shall be 60 inches (1525 mm) wide minimum.

**503.3.2 Length.** Access aisles shall extend the full length of the vehicle pull-up *spaces* they serve.

**503.3.3 Marking.** Access aisles shall be marked so as to discourage parking in them.



**Figure 503.3**  
**Passenger Loading Zone Access Aisle**

**503.4 Floor and Ground Surfaces.** Vehicle pull-up *spaces* and access aisles serving them shall comply with 302. Access aisles shall be at the same level as the vehicle pull-up *space* they serve. Changes in level are not permitted.

**EXCEPTION:** Slopes not steeper than 1:48 shall be permitted.

**503.5 Vertical Clearance.** Vehicle pull-up *spaces*, access aisles serving them, and a vehicular route from an *entrance* to the passenger loading zone, and from the passenger loading zone to a vehicular exit shall provide a vertical clearance of 114 inches (2895 mm) minimum.

## 504 Stairways

**504.1 General.** Stairs shall comply with 504.

**504.2 Treads and Risers.** All steps on a flight of stairs shall have uniform riser heights and uniform tread depths. Risers shall be 4 inches (100 mm) high minimum and 7 inches (180 mm) high maximum. Treads shall be 11 inches (280 mm) deep minimum.

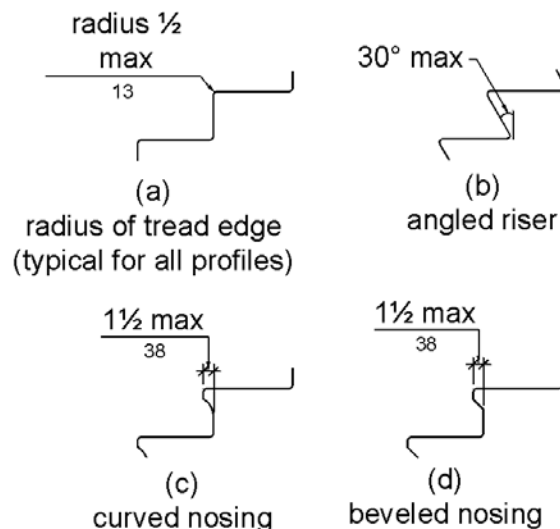
**504.3 Open Risers.** Open risers are not permitted.

**504.4 Tread Surface.** Stair treads shall comply with 302. Changes in level are not permitted.

**EXCEPTION:** Treads shall be permitted to have a slope not steeper than 1:48.

**Advisory 504.4 Tread Surface.** Consider providing visual contrast on tread nosings, or at the leading edges of treads without nosings, so that stair treads are more visible for people with low vision.

**504.5 Nosings.** The radius of curvature at the leading edge of the tread shall be  $\frac{1}{2}$  inch (13 mm) maximum. Nosings that project beyond risers shall have the underside of the leading edge curved or beveled. Risers shall be permitted to slope under the tread at an angle of 30 degrees maximum from vertical. The permitted projection of the nosing shall extend  $1\frac{1}{2}$  inches (38 mm) maximum over the tread below.



**Figure 504.5**  
**Stair Nosings**

**504.6 Handrails.** Stairs shall have handrails complying with 505.

**504.7 Wet Conditions.** Stair treads and landings subject to wet conditions shall be designed to prevent the accumulation of water.



## 505 Handrails

**505.1 General.** Handrails provided along walking surfaces complying with 403, required at *ramps* complying with 405, and required at stairs complying with 504 shall comply with 505.

**Advisory 505.1 General.** Handrails are required on ramp runs with a rise greater than 6 inches (150 mm) (see 405.8) and on certain stairways (see 504). Handrails are not required on walking surfaces with running slopes less than 1:20. However, handrails are required to comply with 505 when they are provided on walking surfaces with running slopes less than 1:20 (see 403.6). Sections 505.2, 505.3, and 505.10 do not apply to handrails provided on walking surfaces with running slopes less than 1:20 as these sections only reference requirements for ramps and stairs.

**505.2 Where Required.** Handrails shall be provided on both sides of stairs and *ramps*.

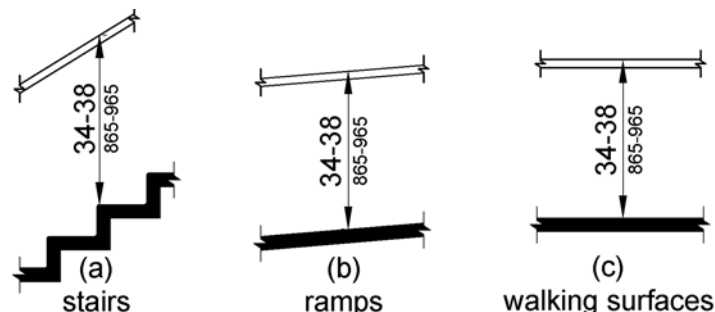
**EXCEPTION:** In *assembly areas*, handrails shall not be required on both sides of aisle *ramps* where a handrail is provided at either side or within the aisle width.

**505.3 Continuity.** Handrails shall be continuous within the full length of each stair flight or *ramp* run. Inside handrails on switchback or dogleg stairs and *ramps* shall be continuous between flights or runs.

**EXCEPTION:** In *assembly areas*, handrails on *ramps* shall not be required to be continuous in aisles serving seating.

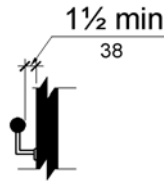
**505.4 Height.** Top of gripping surfaces of handrails shall be 34 inches (865 mm) minimum and 38 inches (965 mm) maximum vertically above walking surfaces, stair nosings, and *ramp* surfaces. Handrails shall be at a consistent height above walking surfaces, stair nosings, and *ramp* surfaces.

**Advisory 505.4 Height.** The requirements for stair and ramp handrails in this document are for adults. When children are the principle users in a building or facility (e.g., elementary schools), a second set of handrails at an appropriate height can assist them and aid in preventing accidents. A maximum height of 28 inches (710 mm) measured to the top of the gripping surface from the ramp surface or stair nosing is recommended for handrails designed for children. Sufficient vertical clearance between upper and lower handrails, 9 inches (230 mm) minimum, should be provided to help prevent entrapment.



**Figure 505.4**  
**Handrail Height**

**505.5 Clearance.** Clearance between handrail gripping surfaces and adjacent surfaces shall be  $1\frac{1}{2}$  inches (38 mm) minimum.



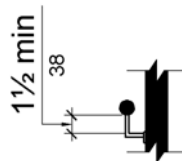
**Figure 505.5**  
**Handrail Clearance**

**505.6 Gripping Surface.** Handrail gripping surfaces shall be continuous along their length and shall not be obstructed along their tops or sides. The bottoms of handrail gripping surfaces shall not be obstructed for more than 20 percent of their length. Where provided, horizontal projections shall occur  $1\frac{1}{2}$  inches (38 mm) minimum below the bottom of the handrail gripping surface.

**EXCEPTIONS:** 1. Where handrails are provided along walking surfaces with slopes not steeper than 1:20, the bottoms of handrail gripping surfaces shall be permitted to be obstructed along their entire length where they are integral to crash rails or bumper guards.

2. The distance between horizontal projections and the bottom of the gripping surface shall be permitted to be reduced by  $\frac{1}{8}$  inch (3.2 mm) for each  $\frac{1}{2}$  inch (13 mm) of additional handrail perimeter dimension that exceeds 4 inches (100 mm).

**Advisory 505.6 Gripping Surface.** People with disabilities, older people, and others benefit from continuous gripping surfaces that permit users to reach the fingers outward or downward to grasp the handrail, particularly as the user senses a loss of equilibrium or begins to fall.

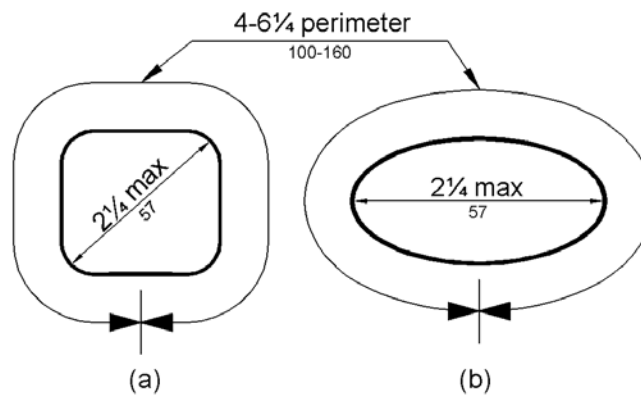


**Figure 505.6**  
**Horizontal Projections Below Gripping Surface**

**505.7 Cross Section.** Handrail gripping surfaces shall have a cross section complying with 505.7.1 or 505.7.2.

**505.7.1 Circular Cross Section.** Handrail gripping surfaces with a circular cross section shall have an outside diameter of  $1\frac{1}{4}$  inches (32 mm) minimum and 2 inches (51 mm) maximum.

**505.7.2 Non-Circular Cross Sections.** Handrail gripping surfaces with a non-circular cross section shall have a perimeter dimension of 4 inches (100 mm) minimum and 6¼ inches (160 mm) maximum, and a cross-section dimension of 2¼ inches (57 mm) maximum.



**Figure 505.7.2**  
**Handrail Non-Circular Cross Section**

**505.8 Surfaces.** Handrail gripping surfaces and any surfaces adjacent to them shall be free of sharp or abrasive *elements* and shall have rounded edges.

**505.9 Fittings.** Handrails shall not rotate within their fittings.

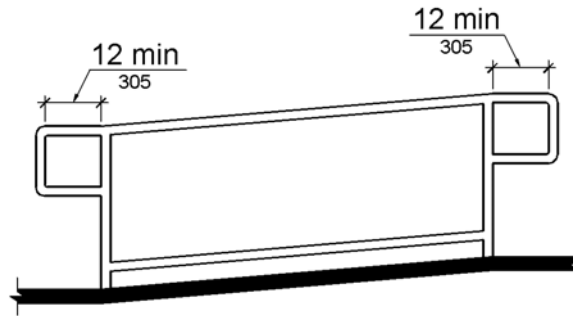
**505.10 Handrail Extensions.** Handrail gripping surfaces shall extend beyond and in the same direction of stair flights and *ramp* runs in accordance with 505.10.

**EXCEPTIONS:** 1. Extensions shall not be required for continuous handrails at the inside turn of switchback or dogleg stairs and *ramps*.

2. In *assembly areas*, extensions shall not be required for *ramp* handrails in aisles serving seating where the handrails are discontinuous to provide access to seating and to permit crossovers within aisles.

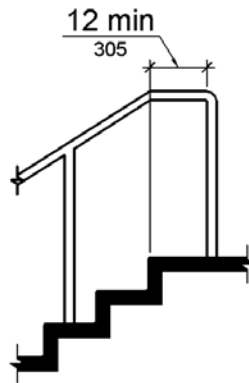
3. In *alterations*, full extensions of handrails shall not be required where such extensions would be hazardous due to plan configuration.

**505.10.1 Top and Bottom Extension at Ramps.** *Ramp* handrails shall extend horizontally above the landing for 12 inches (305 mm) minimum beyond the top and bottom of *ramp* runs. Extensions shall return to a wall, guard, or the landing surface, or shall be continuous to the handrail of an adjacent *ramp* run.



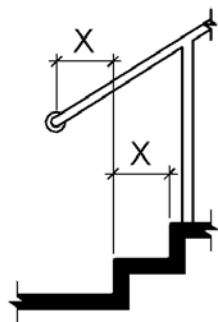
**Figure 505.10.1**  
**Top and Bottom Handrail Extension at Ramps**

**505.10.2 Top Extension at Stairs.** At the top of a stair flight, handrails shall extend horizontally above the landing for 12 inches (305 mm) minimum beginning directly above the first riser nosing. Extensions shall return to a wall, guard, or the landing surface, or shall be continuous to the handrail of an adjacent stair flight.



**Figure 505.10.2**  
**Top Handrail Extension at Stairs**

**505.10.3 Bottom Extension at Stairs.** At the bottom of a stair flight, handrails shall extend at the slope of the stair flight for a horizontal distance at least equal to one tread depth beyond the last riser nosing. Extension shall return to a wall, guard, or the landing surface, or shall be continuous to the handrail of an adjacent stair flight.



Note: X = tread depth

**Figure 505.10.3**  
**Bottom Handrail Extension at Stairs**

## CHAPTER 6: PLUMBING ELEMENTS AND FACILITIES

### 601 General

**601.1 Scope.** The provisions of Chapter 6 shall apply where required by Chapter 2 or where referenced by a requirement in this document.

### 602 Drinking Fountains

**602.1 General.** Drinking fountains shall comply with 307 and 602.

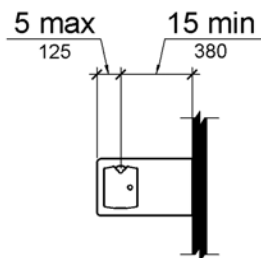
**602.2 Clear Floor Space.** Units shall have a clear floor or ground *space* complying with 305 positioned for a forward approach and centered on the unit. Knee and toe clearance complying with 306 shall be provided.

**EXCEPTION:** A parallel approach complying with 305 shall be permitted at units for *children's use* where the spout is 30 inches (760 mm) maximum above the finish floor or ground and is 3½ inches (90 mm) maximum from the front edge of the unit, including bumpers.

**602.3 Operable Parts.** *Operable parts* shall comply with 309.

**602.4 Spout Height.** Spout outlets shall be 36 inches (915 mm) maximum above the finish floor or ground.

**602.5 Spout Location.** The spout shall be located 15 inches (380 mm) minimum from the vertical support and 5 inches (125 mm) maximum from the front edge of the unit, including bumpers.



**Figure 602.5**  
**Drinking Fountain Spout Location**

**602.6 Water Flow.** The spout shall provide a flow of water 4 inches (100 mm) high minimum and shall be located 5 inches (125 mm) maximum from the front of the unit. The angle of the water stream shall be measured horizontally relative to the front face of the unit. Where spouts are located less than 3 inches (75 mm) of the front of the unit, the angle of the water stream shall be 30 degrees maximum. Where spouts are located between 3 inches (75 mm) and 5 inches (125 mm) maximum from the front of the unit, the angle of the water stream shall be 15 degrees maximum.

**Advisory 602.6 Water Flow.** The purpose of requiring the drinking fountain spout to produce a flow of water 4 inches (100 mm) high minimum is so that a cup can be inserted under the flow of water to provide a drink of water for an individual who, because of a disability, would otherwise be incapable of using the drinking fountain.

**602.7 Drinking Fountains for Standing Persons.** Spout outlets of drinking fountains for standing persons shall be 38 inches (965 mm) minimum and 43 inches (1090 mm) maximum above the finish floor or ground.

### 603 Toilet and Bathing Rooms

**603.1 General.** Toilet and bathing rooms shall comply with 603.

**603.2 Clearances.** Clearances shall comply with 603.2.

**603.2.1 Turning Space.** Turning *space* complying with 304 shall be provided within the room.

**603.2.2 Overlap.** Required clear floor *spaces*, clearance at fixtures, and turning *space* shall be permitted to overlap.

**603.2.3 Door Swing.** Doors shall not swing into the clear floor *space* or clearance required for any fixture. Doors shall be permitted to swing into the required turning *space*.

**EXCEPTIONS:** 1. Doors to a toilet room or bathing room for a single occupant accessed only through a private office and not for *common use* or *public use* shall be permitted to swing into the clear floor *space* or clearance provided the swing of the door can be reversed to comply with 603.2.3.

2. Where the toilet room or bathing room is for individual use and a clear floor *space* complying with 305.3 is provided within the room beyond the arc of the door swing, doors shall be permitted to swing into the clear floor *space* or clearance required for any fixture.

**Advisory 603.2.3 Door Swing Exception 1.** At the time the door is installed, and if the door swing is reversed in the future, the door must meet all the requirements specified in 404. Additionally, the door swing cannot reduce the required width of an accessible route. Also, avoid violating other building or life safety codes when the door swing is reversed.

**603.3 Mirrors.** Mirrors located above lavatories or countertops shall be installed with the bottom edge of the reflecting surface 40 inches (1015 mm) maximum above the finish floor or ground. Mirrors not located above lavatories or countertops shall be installed with the bottom edge of the reflecting surface 35 inches (890 mm) maximum above the finish floor or ground.

**Advisory 603.3 Mirrors.** A single full-length mirror can accommodate a greater number of people, including children. In order for mirrors to be usable by people who are ambulatory and people who use wheelchairs, the top edge of mirrors should be 74 inches (1880 mm) minimum from the floor or ground.

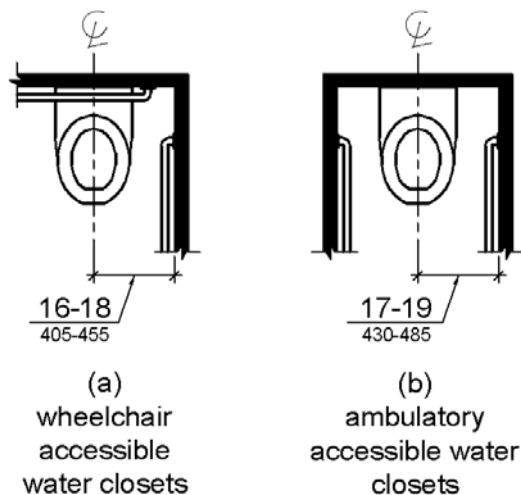
**603.4 Coat Hooks and Shelves.** Coat hooks shall be located within one of the reach ranges specified in 308. Shelves shall be located 40 inches (1015 mm) minimum and 48 inches (1220 mm) maximum above the finish floor.

## 604 Water Closets and Toilet Compartments

**604.1 General.** Water closets and toilet compartments shall comply with 604.2 through 604.8.

**EXCEPTION:** Water closets and toilet compartments for *children's use* shall be permitted to comply with 604.9.

**604.2 Location.** The water closet shall be positioned with a wall or partition to the rear and to one side. The centerline of the water closet shall be 16 inches (405 mm) minimum to 18 inches (455 mm) maximum from the side wall or partition, except that the water closet shall be 17 inches (430 mm) minimum and 19 inches (485 mm) maximum from the side wall or partition in the ambulatory *accessible* toilet compartment specified in 604.8.2. Water closets shall be arranged for a left-hand or right-hand approach.

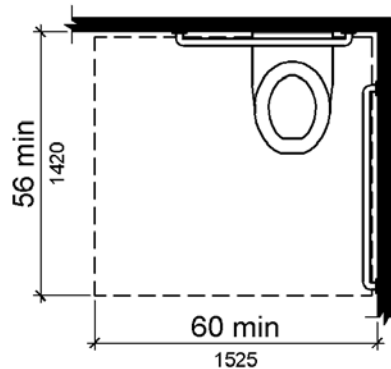


**Figure 604.2**  
**Water Closet Location**

**604.3 Clearance.** Clearances around water closets and in toilet compartments shall comply with 604.3.

**604.3.1 Size.** Clearance around a water closet shall be 60 inches (1525 mm) minimum measured perpendicular from the side wall and 56 inches (1420 mm) minimum measured perpendicular from the rear wall.



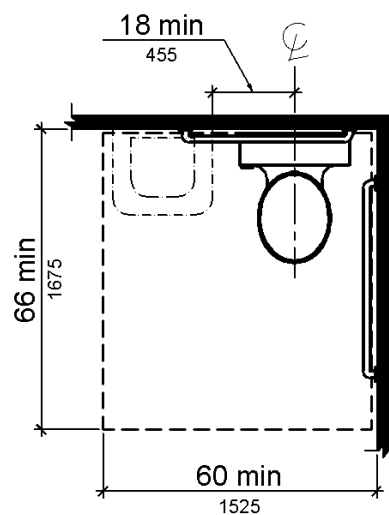


**Figure 604.3.1**  
**Size of Clearance at Water Closets**

**604.3.2 Overlap.** The required clearance around the water closet shall be permitted to overlap the water closet, associated grab bars, dispensers, sanitary napkin disposal units, coat hooks, shelves, *accessible* routes, clear floor *space* and clearances required at other fixtures, and the turning *space*. No other fixtures or obstructions shall be located within the required water closet clearance.

**EXCEPTION:** In *residential dwelling units*, a lavatory complying with 606 shall be permitted on the rear wall 18 inches (455 mm) minimum from the water closet centerline where the clearance at the water closet is 66 inches (1675 mm) minimum measured perpendicular from the rear wall.

**Advisory 604.3.2 Overlap.** When the door to the toilet room is placed directly in front of the water closet, the water closet cannot overlap the required maneuvering clearance for the door inside the room.



**Figure 604.3.2 (Exception)**  
**Overlap of Water Closet Clearance in Residential Dwelling Units**

**604.4 Seats.** The seat height of a water closet above the finish floor shall be 17 inches (430 mm) minimum and 19 inches (485 mm) maximum measured to the top of the seat. Seats shall not be sprung to return to a lifted position.

**EXCEPTIONS:** 1. A water closet in a toilet room for a single occupant accessed only through a private office and not for *common use* or *public use* shall not be required to comply with 604.4.

2. In *residential dwelling units*, the height of water closets shall be permitted to be 15 inches (380 mm) minimum and 19 inches (485 mm) maximum above the finish floor measured to the top of the seat.

**604.5 Grab Bars.** Grab bars for water closets shall comply with 609. Grab bars shall be provided on the side wall closest to the water closet and on the rear wall.

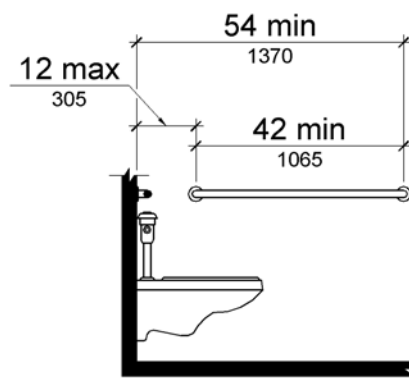
**EXCEPTIONS:** 1. Grab bars shall not be required to be installed in a toilet room for a single occupant accessed only through a private office and not for *common use* or *public use* provided that reinforcement has been installed in walls and located so as to permit the installation of grab bars complying with 604.5.

2. In *residential dwelling units*, grab bars shall not be required to be installed in toilet or bathrooms provided that reinforcement has been installed in walls and located so as to permit the installation of grab bars complying with 604.5.

3. In detention or correction *facilities*, grab bars shall not be required to be installed in housing or holding cells that are specially designed without protrusions for purposes of suicide prevention.

**Advisory 604.5 Grab Bars Exception 2.** Reinforcement must be sufficient to permit the installation of rear and side wall grab bars that fully meet all accessibility requirements including, but not limited to, required length, installation height, and structural strength.

**604.5.1 Side Wall.** The side wall grab bar shall be 42 inches (1065 mm) long minimum, located 12 inches (305 mm) maximum from the rear wall and extending 54 inches (1370 mm) minimum from the rear wall.

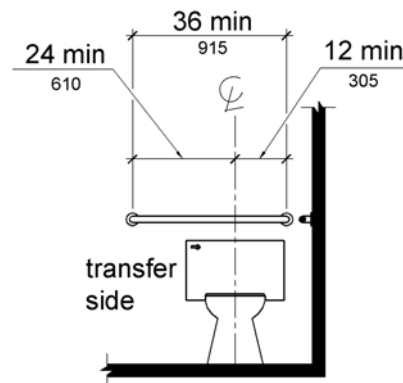


**Figure 604.5.1**  
**Side Wall Grab Bar at Water Closets**

**604.5.2 Rear Wall.** The rear wall grab bar shall be 36 inches (915 mm) long minimum and extend from the centerline of the water closet 12 inches (305 mm) minimum on one side and 24 inches (610 mm) minimum on the other side.

**EXCEPTIONS:** 1. The rear grab bar shall be permitted to be 24 inches (610 mm) long minimum, centered on the water closet, where wall space does not permit a length of 36 inches (915 mm) minimum due to the location of a recessed fixture adjacent to the water closet.

2. Where an *administrative authority* requires flush controls for flush valves to be located in a position that conflicts with the location of the rear grab bar, then the rear grab bar shall be permitted to be split or shifted to the open side of the toilet area.



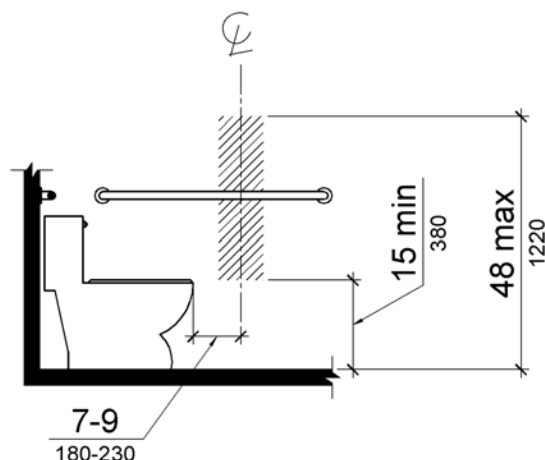
**Figure 604.5.2**  
**Rear Wall Grab Bar at Water Closets**

**604.6 Flush Controls.** Flush controls shall be hand operated or automatic. Hand operated flush controls shall comply with 309. Flush controls shall be located on the open side of the water closet except in ambulatory *accessible* compartments complying with 604.8.2.

**Advisory 604.6 Flush Controls.** If plumbing valves are located directly behind the toilet seat, flush valves and related plumbing can cause injury or imbalance when a person leans back against them. To prevent causing injury or imbalance, the plumbing can be located behind walls or to the side of the toilet; or if approved by the local authority having jurisdiction, provide a toilet seat lid.

**604.7 Dispensers.** Toilet paper dispensers shall comply with 309.4 and shall be 7 inches (180 mm) minimum and 9 inches (230 mm) maximum in front of the water closet measured to the centerline of the dispenser. The outlet of the dispenser shall be 15 inches (380 mm) minimum and 48 inches (1220 mm) maximum above the finish floor and shall not be located behind grab bars. Dispensers shall not be of a type that controls delivery or that does not allow continuous paper flow.

**Advisory 604.7 Dispensers.** If toilet paper dispensers are installed above the side wall grab bar, the outlet of the toilet paper dispenser must be 48 inches (1220 mm) maximum above the finish floor and the top of the gripping surface of the grab bar must be 33 inches (840 mm) minimum and 36 inches (915 mm) maximum above the finish floor.



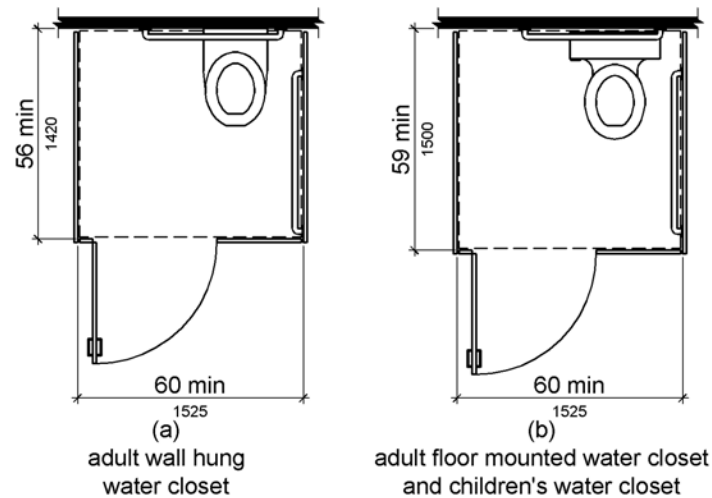
**Figure 604.7**  
**Dispenser Outlet Location**

**604.8 Toilet Compartments.** Wheelchair *accessible* toilet compartments shall meet the requirements of 604.8.1 and 604.8.3. Compartments containing more than one plumbing fixture shall comply with 603. Ambulatory *accessible* compartments shall comply with 604.8.2 and 604.8.3.

**604.8.1 Wheelchair Accessible Compartments.** Wheelchair *accessible* compartments shall comply with 604.8.1.

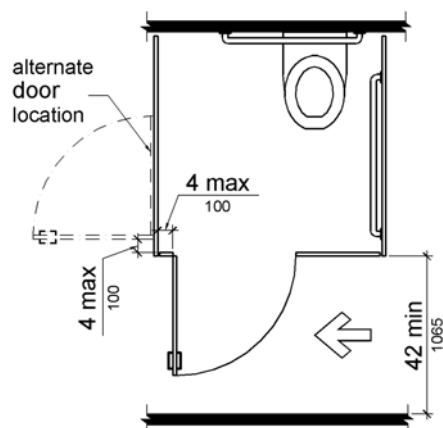
**604.8.1.1 Size.** Wheelchair *accessible* compartments shall be 60 inches (1525 mm) wide minimum measured perpendicular to the side wall, and 56 inches (1420 mm) deep minimum for wall hung water closets and 59 inches (1500 mm) deep minimum for floor mounted water closets measured perpendicular to the rear wall. Wheelchair *accessible* compartments for *children's use* shall be 60 inches (1525 mm) wide minimum measured perpendicular to the side wall, and 59 inches (1500 mm) deep minimum for wall hung and floor mounted water closets measured perpendicular to the rear wall.

**Advisory 604.8.1.1 Size.** The minimum space required in toilet compartments is provided so that a person using a wheelchair can maneuver into position at the water closet. This space cannot be obstructed by baby changing tables or other fixtures or conveniences, except as specified at 604.3.2 (Overlap). If toilet compartments are to be used to house fixtures other than those associated with the water closet, they must be designed to exceed the minimum space requirements. Convenience fixtures such as baby changing tables must also be accessible to people with disabilities as well as to other users. Toilet compartments that are designed to meet, and not exceed, the minimum space requirements may not provide adequate space for maneuvering into position at a baby changing table.



**Figure 604.8.1.1**  
**Size of Wheelchair Accessible Toilet Compartment**

**604.8.1.2 Doors.** Toilet compartment doors, including door hardware, shall comply with 404 except that if the approach is to the latch side of the compartment door, clearance between the door side of the compartment and any obstruction shall be 42 inches (1065 mm) minimum. Doors shall be located in the front partition or in the side wall or partition farthest from the water closet. Where located in the front partition, the door opening shall be 4 inches (100 mm) maximum from the side wall or partition farthest from the water closet. Where located in the side wall or partition, the door opening shall be 4 inches (100 mm) maximum from the front partition. The door shall be self-closing. A door pull complying with 404.2.7 shall be placed on both sides of the door near the latch. Toilet compartment doors shall not swing into the minimum required compartment area.

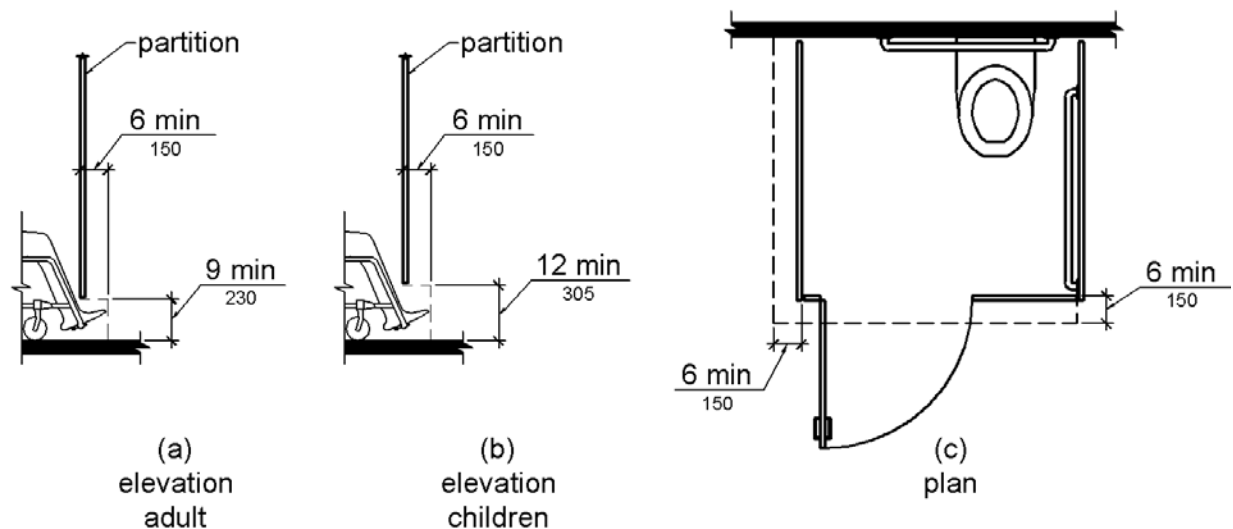


**Figure 604.8.1.2**  
**Wheelchair Accessible Toilet Compartment Doors**

**604.8.1.3 Approach.** Compartments shall be arranged for left-hand or right-hand approach to the water closet.

**604.8.1.4 Toe Clearance.** The front partition and at least one side partition shall provide a toe clearance of 9 inches (230 mm) minimum above the finish floor and 6 inches (150 mm) deep minimum beyond the compartment-side face of the partition, exclusive of partition support members. Compartments for *children's use* shall provide a toe clearance of 12 inches (305 mm) minimum above the finish floor.

**EXCEPTION:** Toe clearance at the front partition is not required in a compartment greater than 62 inches (1575 mm) deep with a wall-hung water closet or 65 inches (1650 mm) deep with a floor-mounted water closet. Toe clearance at the side partition is not required in a compartment greater than 66 inches (1675 mm) wide. Toe clearance at the front partition is not required in a compartment for *children's use* that is greater than 65 inches (1650 mm) deep.



**Figure 604.8.1.4**  
**Wheelchair Accessible Toilet Compartment Toe Clearance**

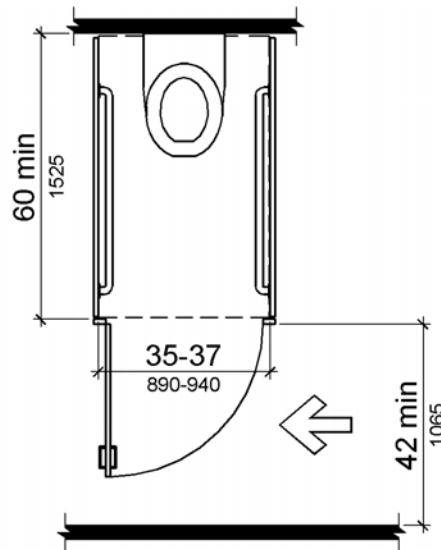
**604.8.1.5 Grab Bars.** Grab bars shall comply with 609. A side-wall grab bar complying with 604.5.1 shall be provided and shall be located on the wall closest to the water closet. In addition, a rear-wall grab bar complying with 604.5.2 shall be provided.

**604.8.2 Ambulatory Accessible Compartments.** Ambulatory *accessible* compartments shall comply with 604.8.2.

**604.8.2.1 Size.** Ambulatory *accessible* compartments shall have a depth of 60 inches (1525 mm) minimum and a width of 35 inches (890 mm) minimum and 37 inches (940 mm) maximum.

**604.8.2.2 Doors.** Toilet compartment doors, including door hardware, shall comply with 404, except that if the approach is to the latch side of the compartment door, clearance between the door side of the compartment and any obstruction shall be 42 inches (1065 mm) minimum. The door shall be self-closing. A door pull complying with 404.2.7 shall be placed on both sides of the door near the latch. Toilet compartment doors shall not swing into the minimum required compartment area.

**604.8.2.3 Grab Bars.** Grab bars shall comply with 609. A side-wall grab bar complying with 604.5.1 shall be provided on both sides of the compartment.



**Figure 604.8.2**  
**Ambulatory Accessible Toilet Compartment**

**604.8.3 Coat Hooks and Shelves.** Coat hooks shall be located within one of the reach ranges specified in 308. Shelves shall be located 40 inches (1015 mm) minimum and 48 inches (1220 mm) maximum above the finish floor.

**604.9 Water Closets and Toilet Compartments for Children's Use.** Water closets and toilet compartments for *children's use* shall comply with 604.9.

**Advisory 604.9 Water Closets and Toilet Compartments for Children's Use.** The requirements in 604.9 are to be followed where the exception for children's water closets in 604.1 is used. The following table provides additional guidance in applying the specifications for water closets for children according to the age group served and reflects the differences in the size, stature, and reach ranges of children ages 3 through 12. The specifications chosen should correspond to the age of the primary user group. The specifications of one age group should be applied consistently in the installation of a water closet and related elements.

Advisory Specifications for Water Closets Serving Children Ages 3 through 12			
	Ages 3 and 4	Ages 5 through 8	Ages 9 through 12
Water Closet Centerline	12 inches (305 mm)	12 to 15 inches (305 to 380 mm)	15 to 18 inches (380 to 455 mm)
Toilet Seat Height	11 to 12 inches (280 to 305 mm)	12 to 15 inches (305 to 380 mm)	15 to 17 inches (380 to 430 mm)
Grab Bar Height	18 to 20 inches (455 to 510 mm)	20 to 25 inches (510 to 635 mm)	25 to 27 inches (635 to 685 mm)
Dispenser Height	14 inches (355 mm)	14 to 17 inches (355 to 430 mm)	17 to 19 inches (430 to 485 mm)

**604.9.1 Location.** The water closet shall be located with a wall or partition to the rear and to one side. The centerline of the water closet shall be 12 inches (305 mm) minimum and 18 inches (455 mm) maximum from the side wall or partition, except that the water closet shall be 17 inches (430 mm) minimum and 19 inches (485 mm) maximum from the side wall or partition in the ambulatory *accessible* toilet compartment specified in 604.8.2. Compartments shall be arranged for left-hand or right-hand approach to the water closet.

**604.9.2 Clearance.** Clearance around a water closet shall comply with 604.3.

**604.9.3 Height.** The height of water closets shall be 11 inches (280 mm) minimum and 17 inches (430 mm) maximum measured to the top of the seat. Seats shall not be sprung to return to a lifted position.

**604.9.4 Grab Bars.** Grab bars for water closets shall comply with 604.5.

**604.9.5 Flush Controls.** Flush controls shall be hand operated or automatic. Hand operated flush controls shall comply with 309.2 and 309.4 and shall be installed 36 inches (915 mm) maximum above the finish floor. Flush controls shall be located on the open side of the water closet except in ambulatory *accessible* compartments complying with 604.8.2.

**604.9.6 Dispensers.** Toilet paper dispensers shall comply with 309.4 and shall be 7 inches (180 mm) minimum and 9 inches (230 mm) maximum in front of the water closet measured to the centerline of the dispenser. The outlet of the dispenser shall be 14 inches (355 mm) minimum and 19 inches (485 mm) maximum above the finish floor. There shall be a clearance of 1½ inches (38 mm) minimum below the grab bar. Dispensers shall not be of a type that controls delivery or that does not allow continuous paper flow.

**604.9.7 Toilet Compartments.** Toilet compartments shall comply with 604.8.

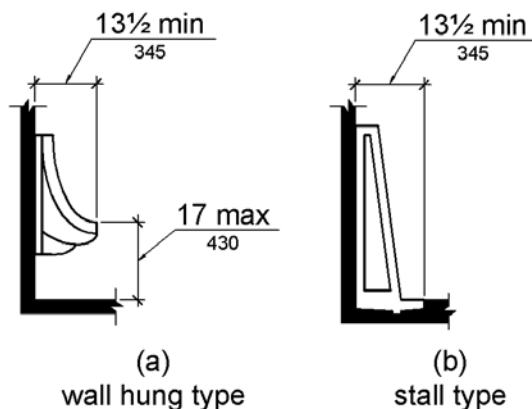


## 605 Urinals

**605.1 General.** Urinals shall comply with 605.

**Advisory 605.1 General.** Stall-type urinals provide greater accessibility for a broader range of persons, including people of short stature.

**605.2 Height and Depth.** Urinals shall be the stall-type or the wall-hung type with the rim 17 inches (430 mm) maximum above the finish floor or ground. Urinals shall be 13½ inches (345 mm) deep minimum measured from the outer face of the urinal rim to the back of the fixture.



**Figure 605.2**  
**Height and Depth of Urinals**

**605.3 Clear Floor Space.** A clear floor or ground space complying with 305 positioned for forward approach shall be provided.

**605.4 Flush Controls.** Flush controls shall be hand operated or automatic. Hand operated flush controls shall comply with 309.

## 606 Lavatories and Sinks

**606.1 General.** Lavatories and sinks shall comply with 606.

**Advisory 606.1 General.** If soap and towel dispensers are provided, they must be located within the reach ranges specified in 308. Locate soap and towel dispensers so that they are conveniently usable by a person at the accessible lavatory.

**606.2 Clear Floor Space.** A clear floor space complying with 305, positioned for a forward approach, and knee and toe clearance complying with 306 shall be provided.

**EXCEPTIONS:** 1. A parallel approach complying with 305 shall be permitted to a kitchen sink in a space where a cook top or conventional range is not provided and to wet bars.

2. A lavatory in a toilet room or bathing *facility* for a single occupant accessed only through a private office and not for *common use* or *public use* shall not be required to provide knee and toe clearance complying with 306.
3. In *residential dwelling units*, cabinetry shall be permitted under lavatories and kitchen sinks provided that all of the following conditions are met:
  - (a) the cabinetry can be removed without removal or replacement of the fixture;
  - (b) the finish floor extends under the cabinetry; and
  - (c) the walls behind and surrounding the cabinetry are finished.
4. A knee clearance of 24 inches (610 mm) minimum above the finish floor or ground shall be permitted at lavatories and sinks used primarily by children 6 through 12 years where the rim or counter surface is 31 inches (785 mm) maximum above the finish floor or ground.
5. A parallel approach complying with 305 shall be permitted to lavatories and sinks used primarily by children 5 years and younger.
6. The dip of the overflow shall not be considered in determining knee and toe clearances.
7. No more than one bowl of a multi-bowl sink shall be required to provide knee and toe clearance complying with 306.

**606.3 Height.** Lavatories and sinks shall be installed with the front of the higher of the rim or counter surface 34 inches (865 mm) maximum above the finish floor or ground.

**EXCEPTIONS:** 1. A lavatory in a toilet or bathing *facility* for a single occupant accessed only through a private office and not for *common use* or *public use* shall not be required to comply with 606.3.

2. In *residential dwelling unit* kitchens, sinks that are adjustable to variable heights, 29 inches (735 mm) minimum and 36 inches (915 mm) maximum, shall be permitted where rough-in plumbing permits connections of supply and drain pipes for sinks mounted at the height of 29 inches (735 mm).

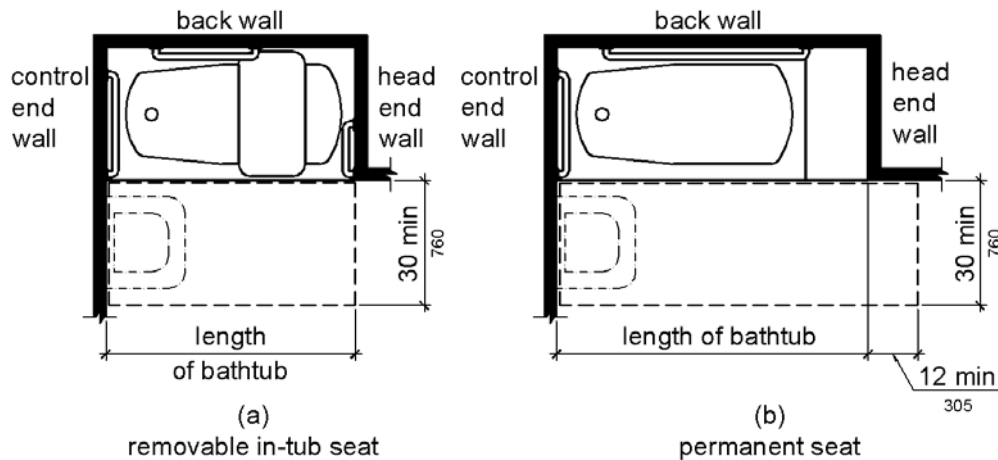
**606.4 Faucets.** Controls for faucets shall comply with 309. Hand-operated metering faucets shall remain open for 10 seconds minimum.

**606.5 Exposed Pipes and Surfaces.** Water supply and drain pipes under lavatories and sinks shall be insulated or otherwise configured to protect against contact. There shall be no sharp or abrasive surfaces under lavatories and sinks.

## **607 Bathtubs**

**607.1 General.** Bathtubs shall comply with 607.

**607.2 Clearance.** Clearance in front of bathtubs shall extend the length of the bathtub and shall be 30 inches (760 mm) wide minimum. A lavatory complying with 606 shall be permitted at the control end of the clearance. Where a permanent seat is provided at the head end of the bathtub, the clearance shall extend 12 inches (305 mm) minimum beyond the wall at the head end of the bathtub.



**Figure 607.2**  
**Clearance for Bathtubs**

**607.3 Seat.** A permanent seat at the head end of the bathtub or a removable in-tub seat shall be provided. Seats shall comply with 610.

**607.4 Grab Bars.** Grab bars for bathtubs shall comply with 609 and shall be provided in accordance with 607.4.1 or 607.4.2.

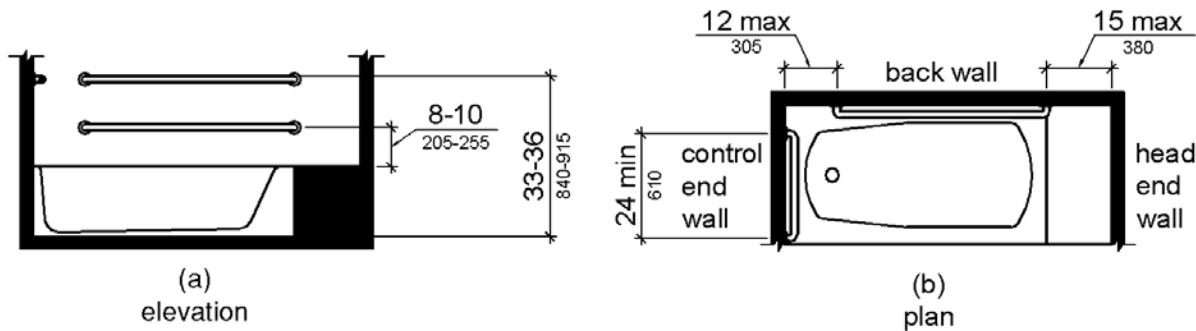
**EXCEPTIONS:** 1. Grab bars shall not be required to be installed in a bathtub located in a bathing facility for a single occupant accessed only through a private office and not for *common use* or *public use* provided that reinforcement has been installed in walls and located so as to permit the installation of grab bars complying with 607.4.

2. In *residential dwelling units*, grab bars shall not be required to be installed in bathtubs located in bathing facilities provided that reinforcement has been installed in walls and located so as to permit the installation of grab bars complying with 607.4.

**607.4.1 Bathtubs With Permanent Seats.** For bathtubs with permanent seats, grab bars shall be provided in accordance with 607.4.1.

**607.4.1.1 Back Wall.** Two grab bars shall be installed on the back wall, one located in accordance with 609.4 and the other located 8 inches (205 mm) minimum and 10 inches (255 mm) maximum above the rim of the bathtub. Each grab bar shall be installed 15 inches (380 mm) maximum from the head end wall and 12 inches (305 mm) maximum from the control end wall.

**607.4.1.2 Control End Wall.** A grab bar 24 inches (610 mm) long minimum shall be installed on the control end wall at the front edge of the bathtub.



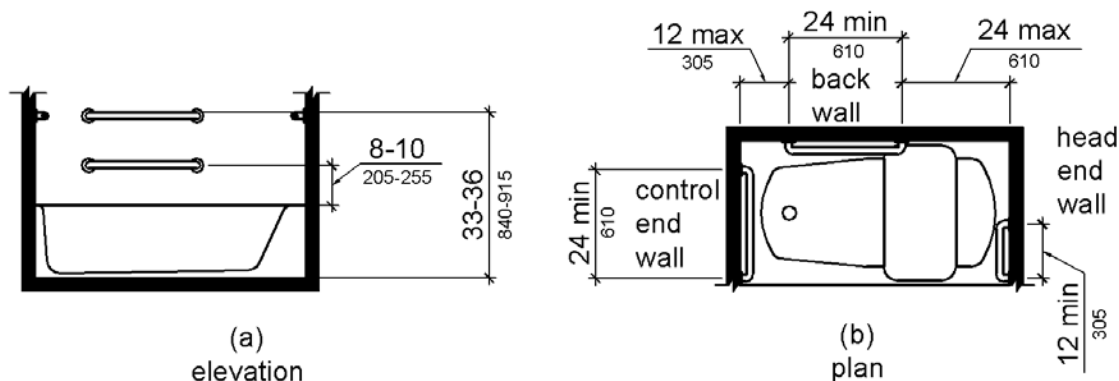
**Figure 607.4.1**  
**Grab Bars for Bathtubs with Permanent Seats**

**607.4.2 Bathtubs Without Permanent Seats.** For bathtubs without permanent seats, grab bars shall comply with 607.4.2.

**607.4.2.1 Back Wall.** Two grab bars shall be installed on the back wall, one located in accordance with 609.4 and other located 8 inches (205 mm) minimum and 10 inches (255 mm) maximum above the rim of the bathtub. Each grab bar shall be 24 inches (610 mm) long minimum and shall be installed 24 inches (610 mm) maximum from the head end wall and 12 inches (305 mm) maximum from the control end wall.

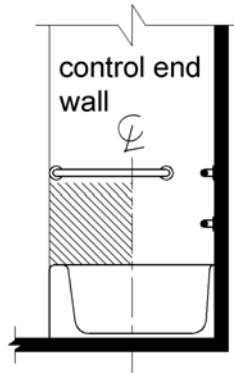
**607.4.2.2 Control End Wall.** A grab bar 24 inches (610 mm) long minimum shall be installed on the control end wall at the front edge of the bathtub.

**607.4.2.3 Head End Wall.** A grab bar 12 inches (305 mm) long minimum shall be installed on the head end wall at the front edge of the bathtub.



**Figure 607.4.2**  
**Grab Bars for Bathtubs with Removable In-Tub Seats**

**607.5 Controls.** Controls, other than drain stoppers, shall be located on an end wall. Controls shall be between the bathtub rim and grab bar, and between the open side of the bathtub and the centerline of the width of the bathtub. Controls shall comply with 309.4.



**Figure 607.5**  
**Bathtub Control Location**

**607.6 Shower Spray Unit and Water.** A shower spray unit with a hose 59 inches (1500 mm) long minimum that can be used both as a fixed-position shower head and as a hand-held shower shall be provided. The shower spray unit shall have an on/off control with a non-positive shut-off. If an adjustable-height shower head on a vertical bar is used, the bar shall be installed so as not to obstruct the use of grab bars. Bathtub shower spray units shall deliver water that is 120°F (49°C) maximum.

**Advisory 607.6 Shower Spray Unit and Water.** Ensure that hand-held shower spray units are capable of delivering water pressure substantially equivalent to fixed shower heads.

**607.7 Bathtub Enclosures.** Enclosures for bathtubs shall not obstruct controls, faucets, shower and spray units or obstruct transfer from wheelchairs onto bathtub seats or into bathtubs. Enclosures on bathtubs shall not have tracks installed on the rim of the open face of the bathtub.

## **608 Shower Compartments**

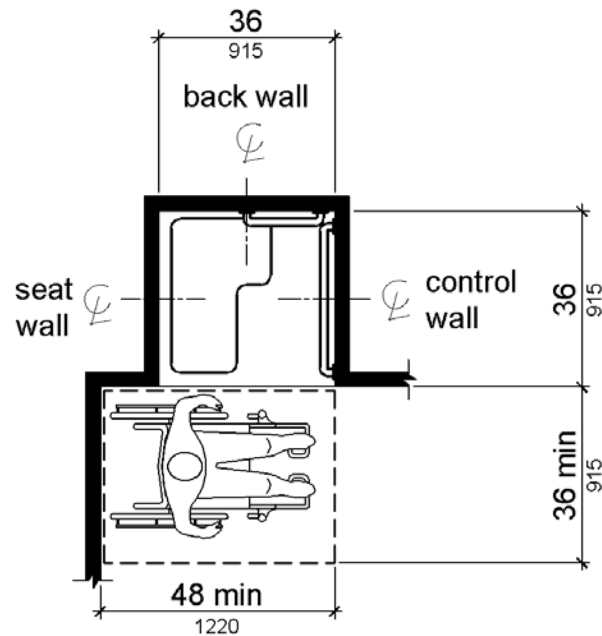
**608.1 General.** Shower compartments shall comply with 608.

**Advisory 608.1 General.** Shower stalls that are 60 inches (1525 mm) wide and have no curb may increase the usability of a bathroom because the shower area provides additional maneuvering space.

**608.2 Size and Clearances for Shower Compartments.** Shower compartments shall have sizes and clearances complying with 608.2.

**608.2.1 Transfer Type Shower Compartments.** Transfer type shower compartments shall be 36 inches (915 mm) by 36 inches (915 mm) clear inside dimensions measured at the center points of opposing sides and shall have a 36 inch (915 mm) wide minimum entry on the face of the shower

compartment. Clearance of 36 inches (915 mm) wide minimum by 48 inches (1220 mm) long minimum measured from the control wall shall be provided.



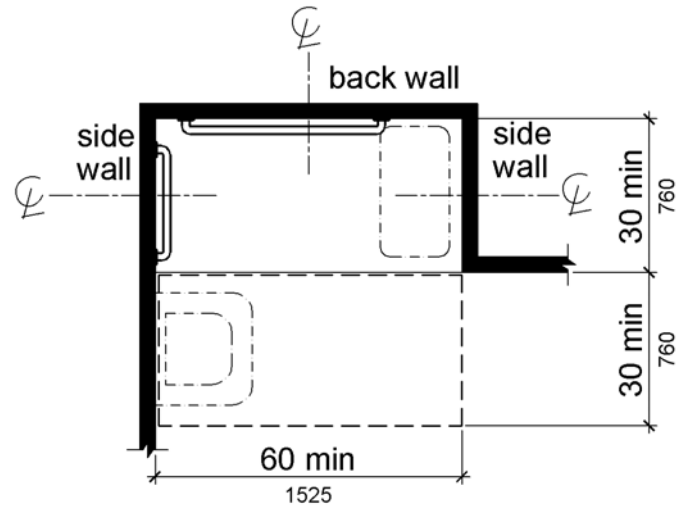
Note: inside finished dimensions measured at the center points of opposing sides

**Figure 608.2.1**  
**Transfer Type Shower Compartment Size and Clearance**

**608.2.2 Standard Roll-In Type Shower Compartments.** Standard roll-in type shower compartments shall be 30 inches (760 mm) wide minimum by 60 inches (1525 mm) deep minimum clear inside dimensions measured at center points of opposing sides and shall have a 60 inches (1525 mm) wide minimum entry on the face of the shower compartment.

**608.2.2.1 Clearance.** A 30 inch (760 mm) wide minimum by 60 inch (1525 mm) long minimum clearance shall be provided adjacent to the open face of the shower compartment.

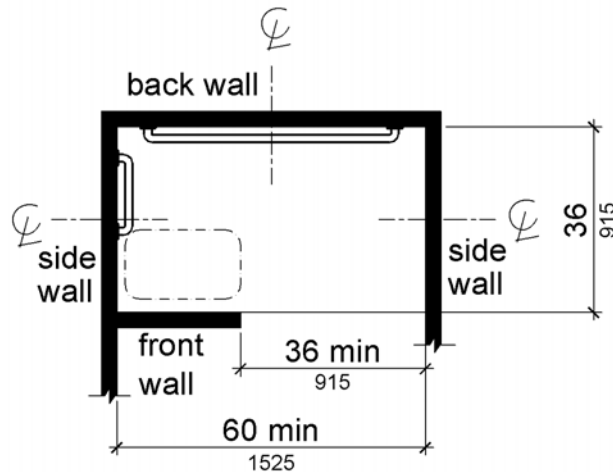
**EXCEPTION:** A lavatory complying with 606 shall be permitted on one 30 inch (760 mm) wide minimum side of the clearance provided that it is not on the side of the clearance adjacent to the controls or, where provided, not on the side of the clearance adjacent to the shower seat.



Note: inside finished dimensions measured at the center points of opposing sides

**Figure 608.2.2**  
**Standard Roll-In Type Shower Compartment Size and Clearance**

**608.2.3 Alternate Roll-In Type Shower Compartments.** Alternate roll-in type shower compartments shall be 36 inches (915 mm) wide and 60 inches (1525 mm) deep minimum clear inside dimensions measured at center points of opposing sides. A 36 inch (915 mm) wide minimum entry shall be provided at one end of the long side of the compartment.



Note: inside finished dimensions measured at the center points of opposing sides

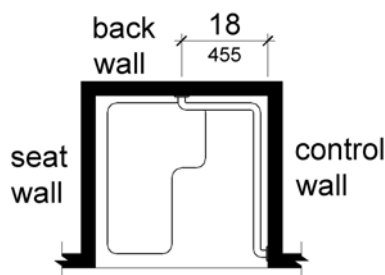
**Figure 608.2.3**  
**Alternate Roll-In Type Shower Compartment Size and Clearance**

**608.3 Grab Bars.** Grab bars shall comply with 609 and shall be provided in accordance with 608.3. Where multiple grab bars are used, required horizontal grab bars shall be installed at the same height above the finish floor.

**EXCEPTIONS:** 1. Grab bars shall not be required to be installed in a shower located in a bathing facility for a single occupant accessed only through a private office, and not for *common use* or *public use* provided that reinforcement has been installed in walls and located so as to permit the installation of grab bars complying with 608.3.

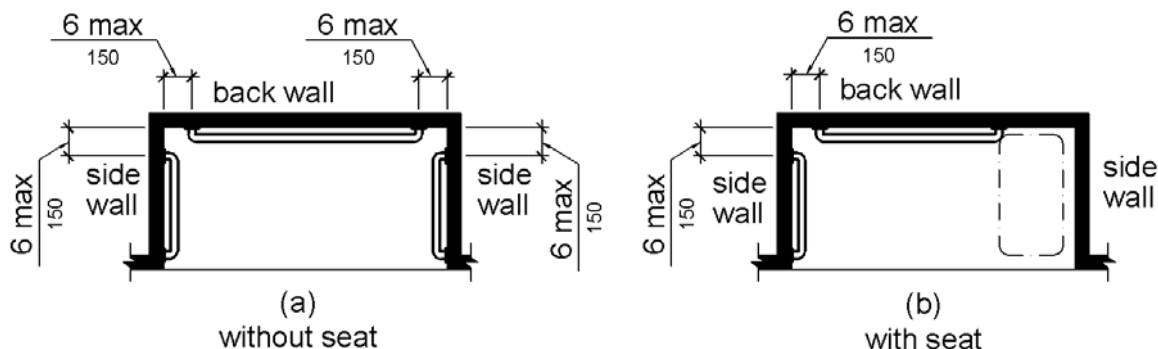
2. In *residential dwelling units*, grab bars shall not be required to be installed in showers located in bathing facilities provided that reinforcement has been installed in walls and located so as to permit the installation of grab bars complying with 608.3.

**608.3.1 Transfer Type Shower Compartments.** In transfer type compartments, grab bars shall be provided across the control wall and back wall to a point 18 inches (455 mm) from the control wall.



**Figure 608.3.1**  
**Grab Bars for Transfer Type Showers**

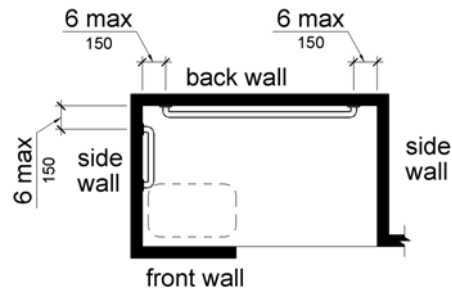
**608.3.2 Standard Roll-In Type Shower Compartments.** Where a seat is provided in standard roll-in type shower compartments, grab bars shall be provided on the back wall and the side wall opposite the seat. Grab bars shall not be provided above the seat. Where a seat is not provided in standard roll-in type shower compartments, grab bars shall be provided on three walls. Grab bars shall be installed 6 inches (150 mm) maximum from adjacent walls.



**Figure 608.3.2**  
**Grab Bars for Standard Roll-In Type Showers**



**608.3.3 Alternate Roll-In Type Shower Compartments.** In alternate roll-in type shower compartments, grab bars shall be provided on the back wall and the side wall farthest from the compartment entry. Grab bars shall not be provided above the seat. Grab bars shall be installed 6 inches (150 mm) maximum from adjacent walls.



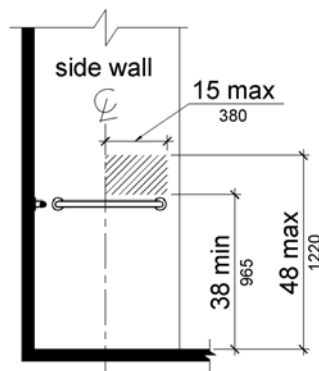
**Figure 608.3.3**  
**Grab Bars for Alternate Roll-In Type Showers**

**608.4 Seats.** A folding or non-folding seat shall be provided in transfer type shower compartments. A folding seat shall be provided in roll-in type showers required in *transient lodging* guest rooms with mobility features complying with 806.2. Seats shall comply with 610.

**EXCEPTION:** In *residential dwelling units*, seats shall not be required in transfer type shower compartments provided that reinforcement has been installed in walls so as to permit the installation of seats complying with 608.4.

**608.5 Controls.** Controls, faucets, and shower spray units shall comply with 309.4.

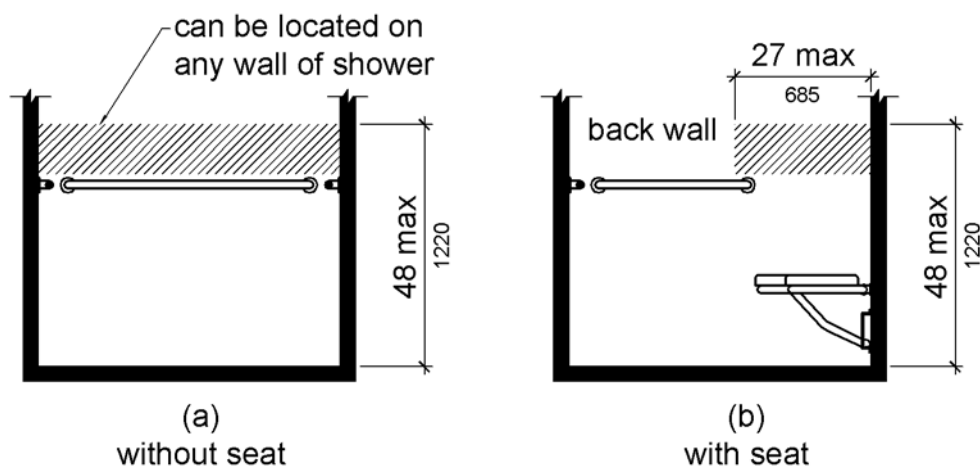
**608.5.1 Transfer Type Shower Compartments.** In transfer type shower compartments, the controls, faucets, and shower spray unit shall be installed on the side wall opposite the seat 38 inches (965 mm) minimum and 48 inches (1220 mm) maximum above the shower floor and shall be located on the control wall 15 inches (380 mm) maximum from the centerline of the seat toward the shower opening.



**Figure 608.5.1**  
**Transfer Type Shower Compartment Control Location**

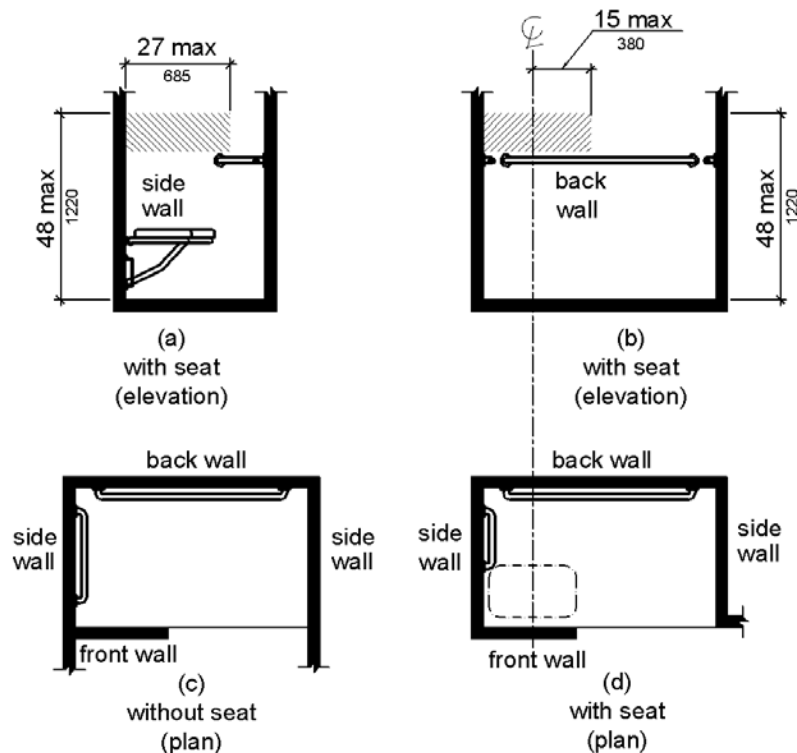
**608.5.2 Standard Roll-In Type Shower Compartments.** In standard roll-in type shower compartments, the controls, faucets, and shower spray unit shall be located above the grab bar, but no higher than 48 inches (1220 mm) above the shower floor. Where a seat is provided, the controls, faucets, and shower spray unit shall be installed on the back wall adjacent to the seat wall and shall be located 27 inches (685 mm) maximum from the seat wall.

**Advisory 608.5.2 Standard Roll-in Type Shower Compartments.** In standard roll-in type showers without seats, the shower head and operable parts can be located on any of the three walls of the shower without adversely affecting accessibility.



**Figure 608.5.2**  
**Standard Roll-In Type Shower Compartment Control Location**

**608.5.3 Alternate Roll-In Type Shower Compartments.** In alternate roll-in type shower compartments, the controls, faucets, and shower spray unit shall be located above the grab bar, but no higher than 48 inches (1220 mm) above the shower floor. Where a seat is provided, the controls, faucets, and shower spray unit shall be located on the side wall adjacent to the seat 27 inches (685 mm) maximum from the side wall behind the seat or shall be located on the back wall opposite the seat 15 inches (380 mm) maximum, left or right, of the centerline of the seat. Where a seat is not provided, the controls, faucets, and shower spray unit shall be installed on the side wall farthest from the compartment entry.



**Figure 608.5.3**  
**Alternate Roll-In Type Shower Compartment Control Location**

**608.6 Shower Spray Unit and Water.** A shower spray unit with a hose 59 inches (1500 mm) long minimum that can be used both as a fixed-position shower head and as a hand-held shower shall be provided. The shower spray unit shall have an on/off control with a non-positive shut-off. If an adjustable-height shower head on a vertical bar is used, the bar shall be installed so as not to obstruct the use of grab bars. Shower spray units shall deliver water that is 120°F (49°C) maximum.

**EXCEPTION:** A fixed shower head located at 48 inches (1220 mm) maximum above the shower finish floor shall be permitted instead of a hand-held spray unit in *facilities* that are not medical care *facilities*, long-term care *facilities*, *transient lodging* guest rooms, or *residential dwelling units*.

**Advisory 608.6 Shower Spray Unit and Water.** Ensure that hand-held shower spray units are capable of delivering water pressure substantially equivalent to fixed shower heads.

**608.7 Thresholds.** Thresholds in roll-in type shower compartments shall be ½ inch (13 mm) high maximum in accordance with 303. In transfer type shower compartments, thresholds ½ inch (13 mm) high maximum shall be beveled, rounded, or vertical.

**EXCEPTION:** A threshold 2 inches (51 mm) high maximum shall be permitted in transfer type shower compartments in existing *facilities* where provision of a ½ inch (13 mm) high threshold would disturb the structural reinforcement of the floor slab.

**608.8 Shower Enclosures.** Enclosures for shower compartments shall not obstruct controls, faucets, and shower spray units or obstruct transfer from wheelchairs onto shower seats.

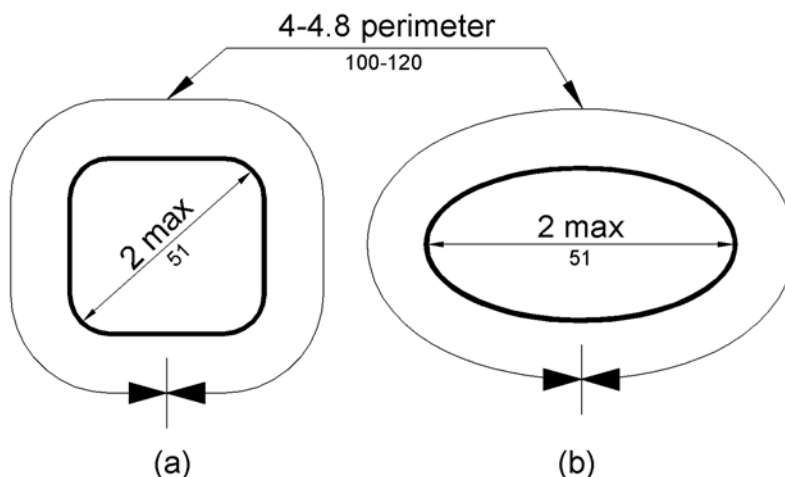
## 609 Grab Bars

**609.1 General.** Grab bars in toilet *facilities* and bathing *facilities* shall comply with 609.

**609.2 Cross Section.** Grab bars shall have a cross section complying with 609.2.1 or 609.2.2.

**609.2.1 Circular Cross Section.** Grab bars with circular cross sections shall have an outside diameter of 1¼ inches (32 mm) minimum and 2 inches (51 mm) maximum.

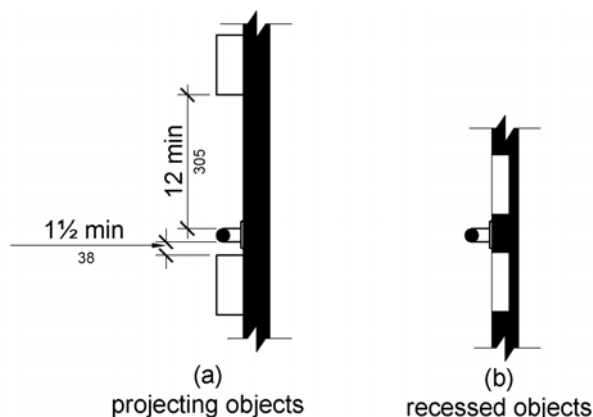
**609.2.2 Non-Circular Cross Section.** Grab bars with non-circular cross sections shall have a cross-section dimension of 2 inches (51 mm) maximum and a perimeter dimension of 4 inches (100 mm) minimum and 4.8 inches (120 mm) maximum.



**Figure 609.2.2**  
**Grab Bar Non-Circular Cross Section**

**609.3 Spacing.** The *space* between the wall and the grab bar shall be 1½ inches (38 mm). The *space* between the grab bar and projecting objects below and at the ends shall be 1½ inches (38 mm) minimum. The *space* between the grab bar and projecting objects above shall be 12 inches (305 mm) minimum.

**EXCEPTION:** The *space* between the grab bars and shower controls, shower fittings, and other grab bars above shall be permitted to be 1½ inches (38 mm) minimum.



**Figure 609.3**  
**Spacing of Grab Bars**

**609.4 Position of Grab Bars.** Grab bars shall be installed in a horizontal position, 33 inches (840 mm) minimum and 36 inches (915 mm) maximum above the finish floor measured to the top of the gripping surface, except that at water closets for *children's use* complying with 604.9, grab bars shall be installed in a horizontal position 18 inches (455 mm) minimum and 27 inches (685 mm) maximum above the finish floor measured to the top of the gripping surface. The height of the lower grab bar on the back wall of a bathtub shall comply with 607.4.1.1 or 607.4.2.1.

**609.5 Surface Hazards.** Grab bars and any wall or other surfaces adjacent to grab bars shall be free of sharp or abrasive *elements* and shall have rounded edges.

**609.6 Fittings.** Grab bars shall not rotate within their fittings.

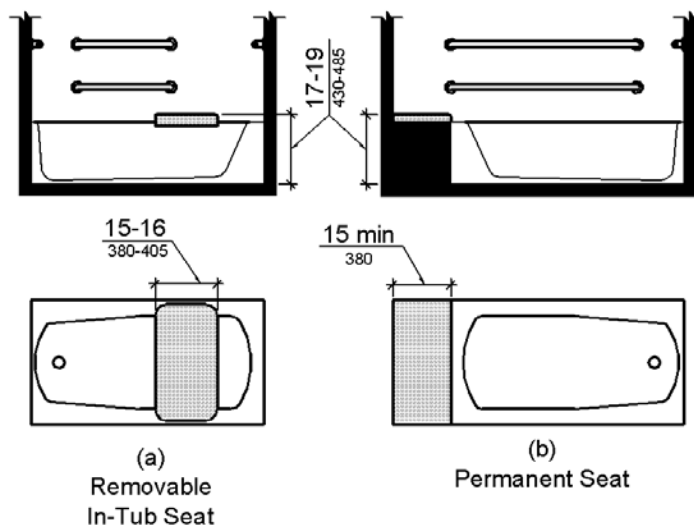
**609.7 Installation.** Grab bars shall be installed in any manner that provides a gripping surface at the specified locations and that does not obstruct the required clear floor *space*.

**609.8 Structural Strength.** Allowable stresses shall not be exceeded for materials used when a vertical or horizontal force of 250 pounds (1112 N) is applied at any point on the grab bar, fastener, mounting device, or supporting structure.

## **610 Seats**

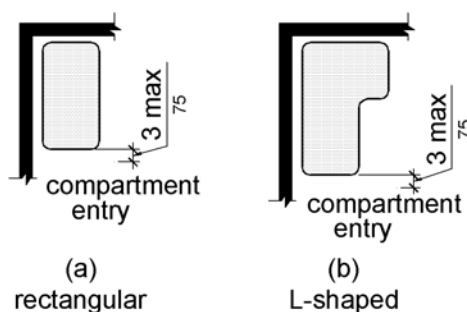
**610.1 General.** Seats in bathtubs and shower compartments shall comply with 610.

**610.2 Bathtub Seats.** The top of bathtub seats shall be 17 inches (430 mm) minimum and 19 inches (485 mm) maximum above the bathroom finish floor. The depth of a removable in-tub seat shall be 15 inches (380 mm) minimum and 16 inches (405 mm) maximum. The seat shall be capable of secure placement. Permanent seats at the head end of the bathtub shall be 15 inches (380 mm) deep minimum and shall extend from the back wall to or beyond the outer edge of the bathtub.



**Figure 610.2**  
**Bathtub Seats**

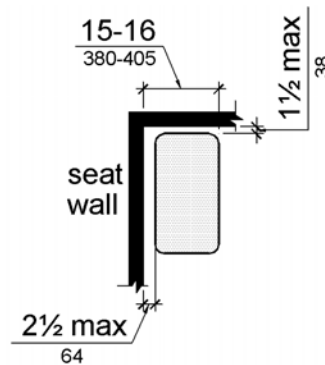
**610.3 Shower Compartment Seats.** Where a seat is provided in a standard roll-in shower compartment, it shall be a folding type, shall be installed on the side wall adjacent to the controls, and shall extend from the back wall to a point within 3 inches (75 mm) of the compartment entry. Where a seat is provided in an alternate roll-in type shower compartment, it shall be a folding type, shall be installed on the front wall opposite the back wall, and shall extend from the adjacent side wall to a point within 3 inches (75 mm) of the compartment entry. In transfer-type showers, the seat shall extend from the back wall to a point within 3 inches (75 mm) of the compartment entry. The top of the seat shall be 17 inches (430 mm) minimum and 19 inches (485 mm) maximum above the bathroom finish floor. Seats shall comply with 610.3.1 or 610.3.2.



**Figure 610.3**  
**Extent of Seat**

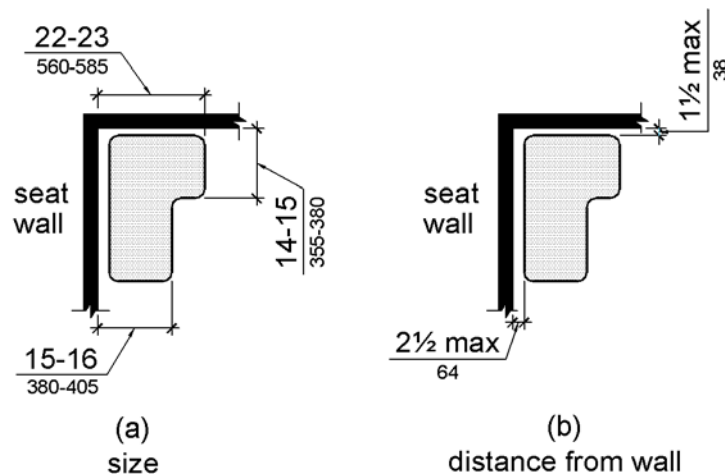
**610.3.1 Rectangular Seats.** The rear edge of a rectangular seat shall be 2½ inches (64 mm) maximum and the front edge 15 inches (380 mm) minimum and 16 inches (405 mm) maximum from

the seat wall. The side edge of the seat shall be  $1\frac{1}{2}$  inches (38 mm) maximum from the adjacent wall.



**Figure 610.3.1**  
**Rectangular Shower Seat**

**610.3.2 L-Shaped Seats.** The rear edge of an L-shaped seat shall be  $2\frac{1}{2}$  inches (64 mm) maximum and the front edge 15 inches (380 mm) minimum and 16 inches (405 mm) maximum from the seat wall. The rear edge of the "L" portion of the seat shall be  $1\frac{1}{2}$  inches (38 mm) maximum from the wall and the front edge shall be 14 inches (355 mm) minimum and 15 inches (380 mm) maximum from the wall. The end of the "L" shall be 22 inches (560 mm) minimum and 23 inches maximum (585 mm) from the main seat wall.



**Figure 610.3.2**  
**L-Shaped Shower Seat**

**610.4 Structural Strength.** Allowable stresses shall not be exceeded for materials used when a vertical or horizontal force of 250 pounds (1112 N) is applied at any point on the seat, fastener, mounting device, or supporting structure.

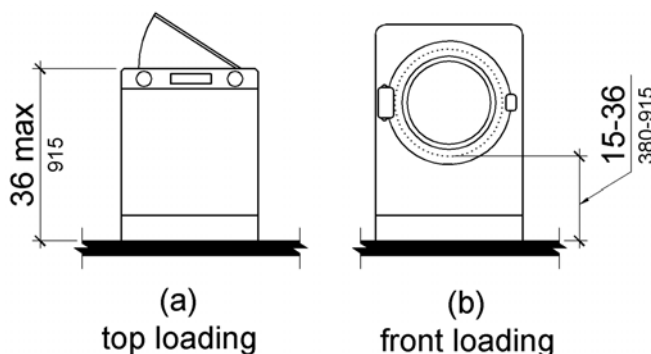
## 611 Washing Machines and Clothes Dryers

**611.1 General.** Washing machines and clothes dryers shall comply with 611.

**611.2 Clear Floor Space.** A clear floor or ground *space* complying with 305 positioned for parallel approach shall be provided. The clear floor or ground *space* shall be centered on the appliance.

**611.3 Operable Parts.** *Operable parts*, including doors, lint screens, and detergent and bleach compartments shall comply with 309.

**611.4 Height.** Top loading machines shall have the door to the laundry compartment located 36 inches (915 mm) maximum above the finish floor. Front loading machines shall have the bottom of the opening to the laundry compartment located 15 inches (380 mm) minimum and 36 inches (915 mm) maximum above the finish floor.



**Figure 611.4**  
**Height of Laundry Compartment Opening**

## 612 Saunas and Steam Rooms

**612.1 General.** Saunas and steam rooms shall comply with 612.

**612.2 Bench.** Where seating is provided in saunas and steam rooms, at least one bench shall comply with 903. Doors shall not swing into the clear floor *space* required by 903.2.

**EXCEPTION:** A readily removable bench shall be permitted to obstruct the turning *space* required by 612.3 and the clear floor or ground *space* required by 903.2.

**612.3 Turning Space.** A turning *space* complying with 304 shall be provided within saunas and steam rooms.



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## CHAPTER 7: COMMUNICATION ELEMENTS AND FEATURES

### 701 General

**701.1 Scope.** The provisions of Chapter 7 shall apply where required by Chapter 2 or where referenced by a requirement in this document.

### 702 Fire Alarm Systems

**702.1 General.** Fire alarm systems shall have permanently installed audible and visible alarms complying with NFPA 72 (1999 or 2002 edition) (incorporated by reference, see “Referenced Standards” in Chapter 1), except that the maximum allowable sound level of audible notification appliances complying with section 4-3.2.1 of NFPA 72 (1999 edition) shall have a sound level no more than 110 dB at the minimum hearing distance from the audible appliance. In addition, alarms in guest rooms required to provide communication features shall comply with sections 4-3 and 4-4 of NFPA 72 (1999 edition) or sections 7.4 and 7.5 of NFPA 72 (2002 edition).

**EXCEPTION:** Fire alarm systems in medical care *facilities* shall be permitted to be provided in accordance with industry practice.

### 703 Signs

**703.1 General.** Signs shall comply with 703. Where both visual and *tactile characters* are required, either one sign with both visual and *tactile characters*, or two separate signs, one with visual, and one with *tactile characters*, shall be provided.

**703.2 Raised Characters.** Raised *characters* shall comply with 703.2 and shall be duplicated in braille complying with 703.3. Raised *characters* shall be installed in accordance with 703.4.

**Advisory 703.2 Raised Characters.** Signs that are designed to be read by touch should not have sharp or abrasive edges.

**703.2.1 Depth.** Raised *characters* shall be 1/32 inch (0.8 mm) minimum above their background.

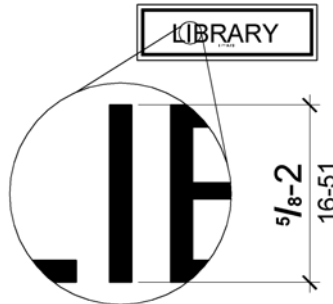
**703.2.2 Case.** *Characters* shall be uppercase.

**703.2.3 Style.** *Characters* shall be sans serif. *Characters* shall not be italic, oblique, script, highly decorative, or of other unusual forms.

**703.2.4 Character Proportions.** *Characters* shall be selected from fonts where the width of the uppercase letter “O” is 55 percent minimum and 110 percent maximum of the height of the uppercase letter “I”.

**703.2.5 Character Height.** *Character* height measured vertically from the baseline of the *character* shall be 5/8 inch (16 mm) minimum and 2 inches (51 mm) maximum based on the height of the uppercase letter “I”.

**EXCEPTION:** Where separate raised and visual *characters* with the same information are provided, raised *character* height shall be permitted to be ½ inch (13 mm) minimum.



**Figure 703.2.5**  
**Height of Raised Characters**

**703.2.6 Stroke Thickness.** Stroke thickness of the uppercase letter “I” shall be 15 percent maximum of the height of the *character*.

**703.2.7 Character Spacing.** *Character* spacing shall be measured between the two closest points of adjacent raised *characters* within a message, excluding word *spaces*. Where *characters* have rectangular cross sections, spacing between individual raised *characters* shall be 1/8 inch (3.2 mm) minimum and 4 times the raised *character* stroke width maximum. Where *characters* have other cross sections, spacing between individual raised *characters* shall be 1/16 inch (1.6 mm) minimum and 4 times the raised *character* stroke width maximum at the base of the cross sections, and 1/8 inch (3.2 mm) minimum and 4 times the raised *character* stroke width maximum at the top of the cross sections. *Characters* shall be separated from raised borders and decorative *elements* 3/8 inch (9.5 mm) minimum.

**703.2.8 Line Spacing.** Spacing between the baselines of separate lines of raised *characters* within a message shall be 135 percent minimum and 170 percent maximum of the raised *character* height.

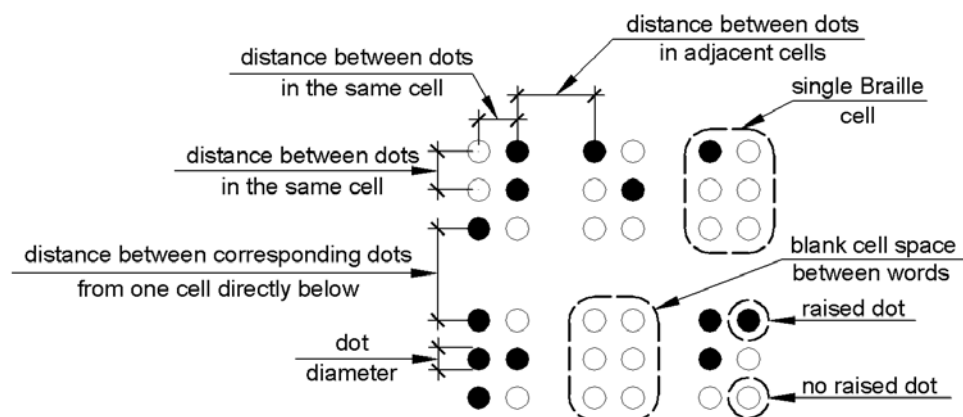
**703.3 Braille.** Braille shall be contracted (Grade 2) and shall comply with 703.3 and 703.4.

**703.3.1 Dimensions and Capitalization.** Braille dots shall have a domed or rounded shape and shall comply with Table 703.3.1. The indication of an uppercase letter or letters shall only be used before the first word of sentences, proper nouns and names, individual letters of the alphabet, initials, and acronyms.

Table 703.3.1 Braille Dimensions

Measurement Range	Minimum in Inches Maximum in Inches
Dot base diameter	0.059 (1.5 mm) to 0.063 (1.6 mm)
Distance between two dots in the same cell <sup>1</sup>	0.090 (2.3 mm) to 0.100 (2.5 mm)
Distance between corresponding dots in adjacent cells <sup>1</sup>	0.241 (6.1 mm) to 0.300 (7.6 mm)
Dot height	0.025 (0.6 mm) to 0.037 (0.9 mm)
Distance between corresponding dots from one cell directly below <sup>1</sup>	0.395 (10 mm) to 0.400 (10.2 mm)

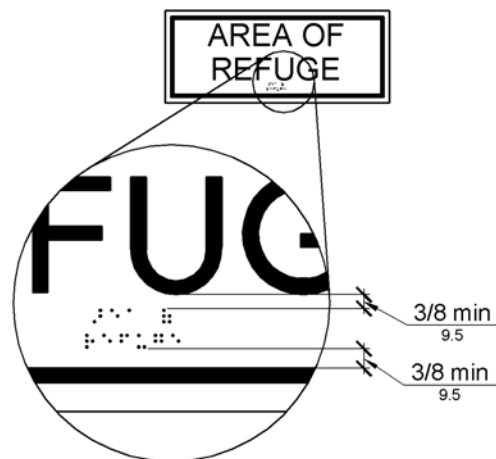
1. Measured center to center.



**Figure 703.3.1**  
**Braille Measurement**

**703.3.2 Position.** Braille shall be positioned below the corresponding text. If text is multi-lined, braille shall be placed below the entire text. Braille shall be separated 3/8 inch (9.5 mm) minimum from any other *tactile characters* and 3/8 inch (9.5 mm) minimum from raised borders and decorative *elements*.

**EXCEPTION:** Braille provided on elevator car controls shall be separated 3/16 inch (4.8 mm) minimum and shall be located either directly below or adjacent to the corresponding raised *characters* or symbols.

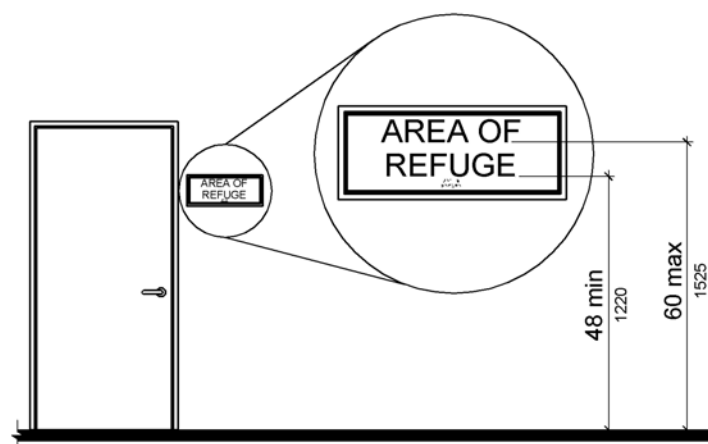


**Figure 703.3.2**  
**Position of Braille**

**703.4 Installation Height and Location.** Signs with *tactile characters* shall comply with 703.4.

**703.4.1 Height Above Finish Floor or Ground.** *Tactile characters* on signs shall be located 48 inches (1220 mm) minimum above the finish floor or ground surface, measured from the baseline of the lowest *tactile character* and 60 inches (1525 mm) maximum above the finish floor or ground surface, measured from the baseline of the highest *tactile character*.

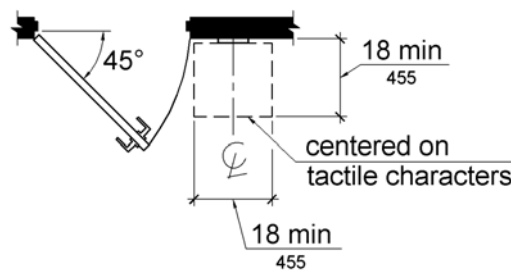
**EXCEPTION:** *Tactile characters* for elevator car controls shall not be required to comply with 703.4.1.



**Figure 703.4.1**  
**Height of Tactile Characters Above Finish Floor or Ground**

**703.4.2 Location.** Where a *tactile* sign is provided at a door, the sign shall be located alongside the door at the latch side. Where a *tactile* sign is provided at double doors with one active leaf, the sign shall be located on the inactive leaf. Where a *tactile* sign is provided at double doors with two active leaves, the sign shall be located to the right of the right hand door. Where there is no wall *space* at the latch side of a single door or at the right side of double doors, signs shall be located on the nearest adjacent wall. Signs containing *tactile characters* shall be located so that a clear floor *space* of 18 inches (455 mm) minimum by 18 inches (455 mm) minimum, centered on the *tactile characters*, is provided beyond the arc of any door swing between the closed position and 45 degree open position.

**EXCEPTION:** Signs with *tactile characters* shall be permitted on the push side of doors with closers and without hold-open devices.



**Figure 703.4.2**  
**Location of Tactile Signs at Doors**

**703.5 Visual Characters.** Visual *characters* shall comply with 703.5.

**EXCEPTION:** Where visual *characters* comply with 703.2 and are accompanied by braille complying with 703.3, they shall not be required to comply with 703.5.2 through 703.5.9.

**703.5.1 Finish and Contrast.** *Characters* and their background shall have a non-glare finish. *Characters* shall contrast with their background with either light *characters* on a dark background or dark *characters* on a light background.

**Advisory 703.5.1 Finish and Contrast.** Signs are more legible for persons with low vision when characters contrast as much as possible with their background. Additional factors affecting the ease with which the text can be distinguished from its background include shadows cast by lighting sources, surface glare, and the uniformity of the text and its background colors and textures.

**703.5.2 Case.** *Characters* shall be uppercase or lowercase or a combination of both.

**703.5.3 Style.** *Characters* shall be conventional in form. *Characters* shall not be italic, oblique, script, highly decorative, or of other unusual forms.

**703.5.4 Character Proportions.** *Characters* shall be selected from fonts where the width of the uppercase letter "O" is 55 percent minimum and 110 percent maximum of the height of the uppercase letter "I".

**703.5.5 Character Height.** Minimum *character* height shall comply with Table 703.5.5. Viewing distance shall be measured as the horizontal distance between the *character* and an obstruction preventing further approach towards the sign. *Character* height shall be based on the uppercase letter “I”.

**Table 703.5.5 Visual Character Height**

Height to Finish Floor or Ground From Baseline of Character	Horizontal Viewing Distance	Minimum Character Height
40 inches (1015 mm) to less than or equal to 70 inches (1780 mm)	less than 72 inches (1830 mm)	5/8 inch (16 mm)
	72 inches (1830 mm) and greater	5/8 inch (16 mm), plus 1/8 inch (3.2 mm) per foot (305 mm) of viewing distance above 72 inches (1830 mm)
Greater than 70 inches (1780 mm) to less than or equal to 120 inches (3050 mm)	less than 180 inches (4570 mm)	2 inches (51 mm)
	180 inches (4570 mm) and greater	2 inches (51 mm), plus 1/8 inch (3.2 mm) per foot (305 mm) of viewing distance above 180 inches (4570 mm)
greater than 120 inches (3050 mm)	less than 21 feet (6400 mm)	3 inches (75 mm)
	21 feet (6400 mm) and greater	3 inches (75 mm), plus 1/8 inch (3.2 mm) per foot (305 mm) of viewing distance above 21 feet (6400 mm)

**703.5.6 Height From Finish Floor or Ground.** Visual *characters* shall be 40 inches (1015 mm) minimum above the finish floor or ground.

**EXCEPTION:** Visual *characters* indicating elevator car controls shall not be required to comply with 703.5.6.

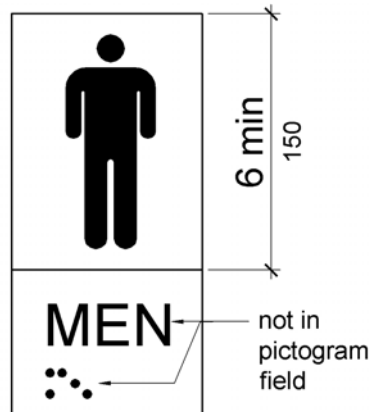
**703.5.7 Stroke Thickness.** Stroke thickness of the uppercase letter “I” shall be 10 percent minimum and 30 percent maximum of the height of the *character*.

**703.5.8 Character Spacing.** *Character* spacing shall be measured between the two closest points of adjacent *characters*, excluding word *spaces*. Spacing between individual *characters* shall be 10 percent minimum and 35 percent maximum of *character* height.

**703.5.9 Line Spacing.** Spacing between the baselines of separate lines of *characters* within a message shall be 135 percent minimum and 170 percent maximum of the *character* height.

**703.6 Pictograms.** *Pictograms* shall comply with 703.6.

**703.6.1 Pictogram Field.** *Pictograms* shall have a field height of 6 inches (150 mm) minimum. *Characters* and braille shall not be located in the *pictogram* field.



**Figure 703.6.1**  
**Pictogram Field**

**703.6.2 Finish and Contrast.** *Pictograms* and their field shall have a non-glare finish. *Pictograms* shall contrast with their field with either a light *pictogram* on a dark field or a dark *pictogram* on a light field.

**A703.6.2 Finish and Contrast.** Signs are more legible for persons with low vision when characters contrast as much as possible with their background. Additional factors affecting the ease with which the text can be distinguished from its background include shadows cast by lighting sources, surface glare, and the uniformity of the text and background colors and textures.

**703.6.3 Text Descriptors.** *Pictograms* shall have text descriptors located directly below the *pictogram* field. Text descriptors shall comply with 703.2, 703.3 and 703.4.

**703.7 Symbols of Accessibility.** Symbols of *accessibility* shall comply with 703.7.

**703.7.1 Finish and Contrast.** Symbols of *accessibility* and their background shall have a non-glare finish. Symbols of *accessibility* shall contrast with their background with either a light symbol on a dark background or a dark symbol on a light background.

**Advisory 703.7.1 Finish and Contrast.** Signs are more legible for persons with low vision when characters contrast as much as possible with their background. Additional factors affecting the ease with which the text can be distinguished from its background include shadows cast by lighting sources, surface glare, and the uniformity of the text and background colors and textures.

## 703.7.2 Symbols.

**703.7.2.1 International Symbol of Accessibility.** The International Symbol of *Accessibility* shall comply with Figure 703.7.2.1.



**Figure 703.7.2.1**  
**International Symbol of Accessibility**

**703.7.2.2 International Symbol of TTY.** The International Symbol of *TTY* shall comply with Figure 703.7.2.2.



**Figure 703.7.2.2**  
**International Symbol of TTY**

**703.7.2.3 Volume Control Telephones.** Telephones with a volume control shall be identified by a *pictogram* of a telephone handset with radiating sound waves on a square field such as shown in Figure 703.7.2.3.



**Figure 703.7.2.3**  
**Volume Control Telephone**



**703.7.2.4 Assistive Listening Systems.** *Assistive listening systems* shall be identified by the International Symbol of Access for Hearing Loss complying with Figure 703.7.2.4.



**Figure 703.7.2.4**  
**International Symbol of Access for Hearing Loss**

## **704 Telephones**

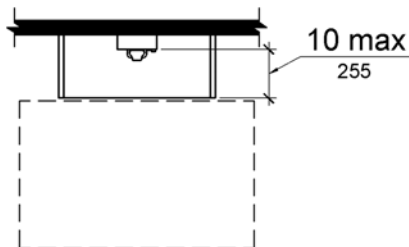
**704.1 General.** Public telephones shall comply with 704.

**704.2 Wheelchair Accessible Telephones.** Wheelchair *accessible* telephones shall comply with 704.2.

**704.2.1 Clear Floor or Ground Space.** A clear floor or ground *space* complying with 305 shall be provided. The clear floor or ground *space* shall not be obstructed by bases, enclosures, or seats.

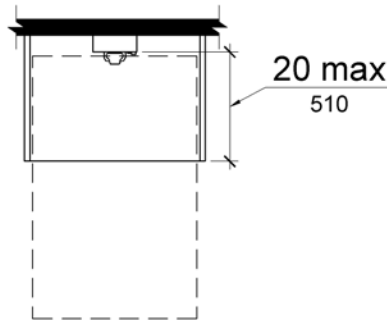
**Advisory 704.2.1 Clear Floor or Ground Space.** Because clear floor and ground space is required to be unobstructed, telephones, enclosures and related telephone book storage cannot encroach on the required clear floor or ground space and must comply with the provisions for protruding objects. (See Section 307).

**704.2.1.1 Parallel Approach.** Where a parallel approach is provided, the distance from the edge of the telephone enclosure to the face of the telephone unit shall be 10 inches (255 mm) maximum.



**Figure 704.2.1.1**  
**Parallel Approach to Telephone**

**704.2.1.2 Forward Approach.** Where a forward approach is provided, the distance from the front edge of a counter within the telephone enclosure to the face of the telephone unit shall be 20 inches (510 mm) maximum.



**Figure 704.2.1.2**  
**Forward Approach to Telephone**

**704.2.2 Operable Parts.** *Operable parts* shall comply with 309. Telephones shall have push-button controls where such service is available.

**704.2.3 Telephone Directories.** Telephone directories, where provided, shall be located in accordance with 309.

**704.2.4 Cord Length.** The cord from the telephone to the handset shall be 29 inches (735 mm) long minimum.

**704.3 Volume Control Telephones.** Public telephones required to have volume controls shall be equipped with a receive volume control that provides a gain adjustable up to 20 dB minimum. For incremental volume control, provide at least one intermediate step of 12 dB of gain minimum. An automatic reset shall be provided.

**Advisory 704.3 Volume Control Telephones.** Amplifiers on pay phones are located in the base or the handset or are built into the telephone. Most are operated by pressing a button or key. If the microphone in the handset is not being used, a mute button that temporarily turns off the microphone can also reduce the amount of background noise which the person hears in the earpiece. If a volume adjustment is provided that allows the user to set the level anywhere from the base volume to the upper requirement of 20 dB, there is no need to specify a lower limit. If a stepped volume control is provided, one of the intermediate levels must provide 12 dB of gain. Consider compatibility issues when matching an amplified handset with a phone or phone system. Amplified handsets that can be switched with pay telephone handsets are available. Portable and in-line amplifiers can be used with some phones but are not practical at most public phones covered by these requirements.

**704.4 TTYs.** *TTYs* required at a public pay telephone shall be permanently affixed within, or adjacent to, the telephone enclosure. Where an acoustic coupler is used, the telephone cord shall be sufficiently long to allow connection of the *TTY* and the telephone receiver.

**Advisory 704.4 TTYs.** Ensure that sufficient electrical service is available where *TTYs* are to be installed.

**704.4.1 Height.** When in use, the touch surface of *TTY* keypads shall be 34 inches (865 mm) minimum above the finish floor.

**EXCEPTION:** Where seats are provided, *TTYs* shall not be required to comply with 704.4.1.

**Advisory 704.4.1 Height.** A telephone with a *TTY* installed underneath cannot also be a wheelchair accessible telephone because the required 34 inches (865 mm) minimum keypad height can cause the highest operable part of the telephone, usually the coin slot, to exceed the maximum permitted side and forward reach ranges. (See Section 308).

**Advisory 704.4.1 Height Exception.** While seats are not required at *TTYs*, reading and typing at a *TTY* is more suited to sitting than standing. Facilities that often provide seats at *TTYs* include, but are not limited to, airports and other passenger terminals or stations, courts, art galleries, and convention centers.

**704.5 TTY Shelf.** Public pay telephones required to accommodate portable *TTYs* shall be equipped with a shelf and an electrical outlet within or adjacent to the telephone enclosure. The telephone handset shall be capable of being placed flush on the surface of the shelf. The shelf shall be capable of accommodating a *TTY* and shall have 6 inches (150 mm) minimum vertical clearance above the area where the *TTY* is to be placed.

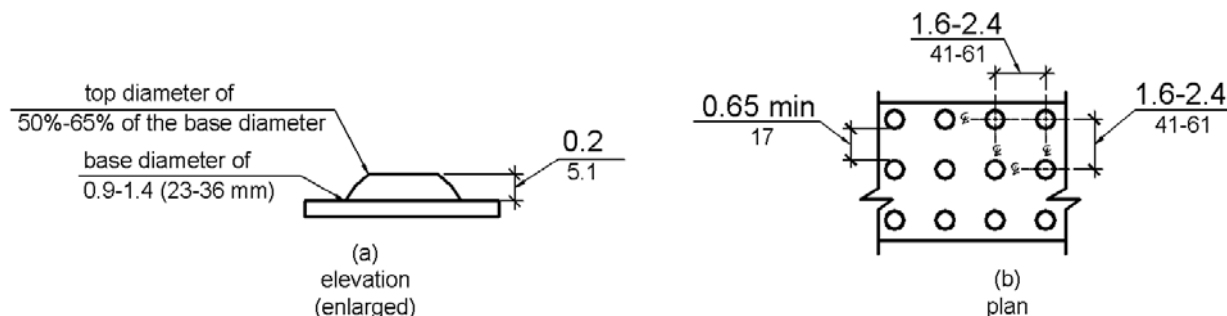
## 705 Detectable Warnings

**705.1 General.** *Detectable warnings* shall consist of a surface of truncated domes and shall comply with 705.

**705.1.1 Dome Size.** Truncated domes in a *detectable warning* surface shall have a base diameter of 0.9 inch (23 mm) minimum and 1.4 inches (36 mm) maximum, a top diameter of 50 percent of the base diameter minimum to 65 percent of the base diameter maximum, and a height of 0.2 inch (5.1 mm).

**705.1.2 Dome Spacing.** Truncated domes in a *detectable warning* surface shall have a center-to-center spacing of 1.6 inches (41 mm) minimum and 2.4 inches (61 mm) maximum, and a base-to-base spacing of 0.65 inch (17 mm) minimum, measured between the most adjacent domes on a square grid.

**705.1.3 Contrast.** *Detectable warning* surfaces shall contrast visually with adjacent walking surfaces either light-on-dark, or dark-on-light.



**Figure 705.1**  
**Size and Spacing of Truncated Domes**

**705.2 Platform Edges.** *Detectable warning surfaces* at platform boarding edges shall be 24 inches (610 mm) wide and shall extend the full length of the *public use areas* of the platform.

## 706 Assistive Listening Systems

**706.1 General.** *Assistive listening systems* required in *assembly areas* shall comply with 706.

**Advisory 706.1 General.** Assistive listening systems are generally categorized by their mode of transmission. There are hard-wired systems and three types of wireless systems: induction loop, infrared, and FM radio transmission. Each has different advantages and disadvantages that can help determine which system is best for a given application. For example, an FM system may be better than an infrared system in some open-air assemblies since infrared signals are less effective in sunlight. On the other hand, an infrared system is typically a better choice than an FM system where confidential transmission is important because it will be contained within a given space.

The technical standards for assistive listening systems describe minimum performance levels for volume, interference, and distortion. Sound pressure levels (SPL), expressed in decibels, measure output sound volume. Signal-to-noise ratio (SNR or S/N), also expressed in decibels, represents the relationship between the loudness of a desired sound (the signal) and the background noise in a space or piece of equipment. The higher the SNR, the more intelligible the signal. The peak clipping level limits the distortion in signal output produced when high-volume sound waves are manipulated to serve assistive listening devices.

Selecting or specifying an effective assistive listening system for a large or complex venue requires assistance from a professional sound engineer. The Access Board has published technical assistance on assistive listening devices and systems.

**706.2 Receiver Jacks.** Receivers required for use with an *assistive listening system* shall include a 1/8 inch (3.2 mm) standard mono jack.

**706.3 Receiver Hearing-Aid Compatibility.** Receivers required to be hearing-aid compatible shall interface with telecoils in hearing aids through the provision of neckloops.

**Advisory 706.3 Receiver Hearing-Aid Compatibility.** Neckloops and headsets that can be worn as neckloops are compatible with hearing aids. Receivers that are not compatible include earbuds, which may require removal of hearing aids, earphones, and headsets that must be worn over the ear, which can create disruptive interference in the transmission and can be uncomfortable for people wearing hearing aids.

**706.4 Sound Pressure Level.** *Assistive listening systems* shall be capable of providing a sound pressure level of 110 dB minimum and 118 dB maximum with a dynamic range on the volume control of 50 dB.

**706.5 Signal-to-Noise Ratio.** The signal-to-noise ratio for internally generated noise in *assistive listening systems* shall be 18 dB minimum.

**706.6 Peak Clipping Level.** Peak clipping shall not exceed 18 dB of clipping relative to the peaks of speech.

## **707 Automatic Teller Machines and Fare Machines**

**Advisory 707 Automatic Teller Machines and Fare Machines.** Interactive transaction machines (ITMs), other than ATMs, are not covered by Section 707. However, for entities covered by the ADA, the Department of Justice regulations that implement the ADA provide additional guidance regarding the relationship between these requirements and elements that are not directly addressed by these requirements. Federal procurement law requires that ITMs purchased by the Federal government comply with standards issued by the Access Board under Section 508 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended. This law covers a variety of products, including computer hardware and software, websites, phone systems, fax machines, copiers, and similar technologies. For more information on Section 508 consult the Access Board's website at [www.access-board.gov](http://www.access-board.gov).

**707.1 General.** Automatic teller machines and fare machines shall comply with 707.

**Advisory 707.1 General.** If farecards have one tactually distinctive corner they can be inserted with greater accuracy. Token collection devices that are designed to accommodate tokens which are perforated can allow a person to distinguish more readily between tokens and common coins. Place accessible gates and fare vending machines in close proximity to other accessible elements when feasible so the facility is easier to use.

**707.2 Clear Floor or Ground Space.** A clear floor or ground *space* complying with 305 shall be provided.

**EXCEPTION:** Clear floor or ground *space* shall not be required at drive-up only automatic teller machines and fare machines.

**707.3 Operable Parts.** *Operable parts* shall comply with 309. Unless a clear or correct key is provided, each *operable part* shall be able to be differentiated by sound or touch, without activation.

**EXCEPTION:** Drive-up only automatic teller machines and fare machines shall not be required to comply with 309.2 and 309.3.

**707.4 Privacy.** Automatic teller machines shall provide the opportunity for the same degree of privacy of input and output available to all individuals.

**Advisory 707.4 Privacy.** In addition to people who are blind or visually impaired, people with limited reach who use wheelchairs or have short stature, who cannot effectively block the ATM screen with their bodies, may prefer to use speech output. Speech output users can benefit from an option to render the visible screen blank, thereby affording them greater personal security and privacy.

**707.5 Speech Output.** Machines shall be speech enabled. Operating instructions and orientation, visible transaction prompts, user input verification, error messages, and all displayed information for full use shall be *accessible* to and independently usable by individuals with vision impairments. Speech shall be delivered through a mechanism that is readily available to all users, including but not limited to, an industry standard connector or a telephone handset. Speech shall be recorded or digitized human, or synthesized.

**EXCEPTIONS:** 1. Audible tones shall be permitted instead of speech for visible output that is not displayed for security purposes, including but not limited to, asterisks representing personal identification numbers.

2. Advertisements and other similar information shall not be required to be audible unless they convey information that can be used in the transaction being conducted.

3. Where speech synthesis cannot be supported, dynamic alphabetic output shall not be required to be audible.

**Advisory 707.5 Speech Output.** If an ATM provides additional functions such as dispensing coupons, selling theater tickets, or providing copies of monthly statements, all such functions must be available to customers using speech output. To avoid confusion at the ATM, the method of initiating the speech mode should be easily discoverable and should not require specialized training. For example, if a telephone handset is provided, lifting the handset can initiate the speech mode.

**707.5.1 User Control.** Speech shall be capable of being repeated or interrupted. Volume control shall be provided for the speech function.

**EXCEPTION:** Speech output for any single function shall be permitted to be automatically interrupted when a transaction is selected.

**707.5.2 Receipts.** Where receipts are provided, speech output devices shall provide audible balance inquiry information, error messages, and all other information on the printed receipt necessary to complete or verify the transaction.

**EXCEPTIONS:** 1. Machine location, date and time of transaction, customer account number, and the machine identifier shall not be required to be audible.

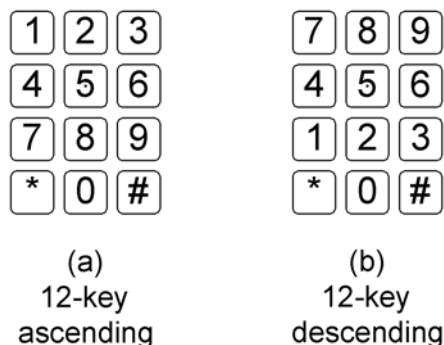
2. Information on printed receipts that duplicates information available on-screen shall not be required to be presented in the form of an audible receipt.
3. Printed copies of bank statements and checks shall not be required to be audible.

**707.6 Input.** Input devices shall comply with 707.6.

**707.6.1 Input Controls.** At least one *tactilely* discernible input control shall be provided for each function. Where provided, key surfaces not on active areas of display screens, shall be raised above surrounding surfaces. Where membrane keys are the only method of input, each shall be *tactilely* discernible from surrounding surfaces and adjacent keys.

**707.6.2 Numeric Keys.** Numeric keys shall be arranged in a 12-key ascending or descending telephone keypad layout. The number five key shall be *tactilely* distinct from the other keys.

**Advisory 707.6.2 Numeric Keys.** Telephone keypads and computer keyboards differ in one significant feature, ascending versus descending numerical order. Both types of keypads are acceptable, provided the computer-style keypad is organized similarly to the number pad located at the right on most computer keyboards, and does not resemble the line of numbers located above the computer keys.



**Figure 707.6.2**  
**Numeric Key Layout**

**707.6.3 Function Keys.** Function keys shall comply with 707.6.3.

**707.6.3.1 Contrast.** Function keys shall contrast visually from background surfaces. *Characters* and symbols on key surfaces shall contrast visually from key surfaces. Visual contrast shall be either light-on-dark or dark-on-light.

**EXCEPTION:** *Tactile* symbols required by 707.6.3.2 shall not be required to comply with 707.6.3.1.

**707.6.3.2 Tactile Symbols.** Function key surfaces shall have *tactile* symbols as follows: Enter or Proceed key: raised circle; Clear or Correct key: raised left arrow; Cancel key: raised letter ex; Add Value key: raised plus sign; Decrease Value key: raised minus sign.

**707.7 Display Screen.** The display screen shall comply with 707.7.

**EXCEPTION:** Drive-up only automatic teller machines and fare machines shall not be required to comply with 707.7.1.

**707.7.1 Visibility.** The display screen shall be visible from a point located 40 inches (1015 mm) above the center of the clear floor space in front of the machine.

**707.7.2 Characters.** *Characters* displayed on the screen shall be in a sans serif font. *Characters* shall be 3/16 inch (4.8 mm) high minimum based on the uppercase letter "I". *Characters* shall contrast with their background with either light *characters* on a dark background or dark *characters* on a light background.

**707.8 Braille Instructions.** Braille instructions for initiating the speech mode shall be provided. Braille shall comply with 703.3.

## **708 Two-Way Communication Systems**

**708.1 General.** Two-way communication systems shall comply with 708.

**Advisory 708.1 General.** Devices that do not require handsets are easier to use by people who have a limited reach.

**708.2 Audible and Visual Indicators.** The system shall provide both audible and visual signals.

**Advisory 708.2 Audible and Visual Indicators.** A light can be used to indicate visually that assistance is on the way. Signs indicating the meaning of visual signals should be provided.

**708.3 Handsets.** Handset cords, if provided, shall be 29 inches (735 mm) long minimum.

**708.4 Residential Dwelling Unit Communication Systems.** Communications systems between a *residential dwelling unit* and a *site, building, or floor entrance* shall comply with 708.4.

**708.4.1 Common Use or Public Use System Interface.** The *common use* or *public use* system interface shall include the capability of supporting voice and *TTY* communication with the *residential dwelling unit* interface.

**708.4.2 Residential Dwelling Unit Interface.** The *residential dwelling unit* system interface shall include a telephone jack capable of supporting voice and *TTY* communication with the *common use* or *public use* system interface.



## CHAPTER 8: SPECIAL ROOMS, SPACES, AND ELEMENTS

### 801 General

**801.1 Scope.** The provisions of Chapter 8 shall apply where required by Chapter 2 or where referenced by a requirement in this document.

**Advisory 801.1 Scope.** Facilities covered by these requirements are also subject to the requirements of the other chapters. For example, 806 addresses guest rooms in transient lodging facilities while 902 contains the technical specifications for dining surfaces. If a transient lodging facility contains a restaurant, the restaurant must comply with requirements in other chapters such as those applicable to certain dining surfaces.

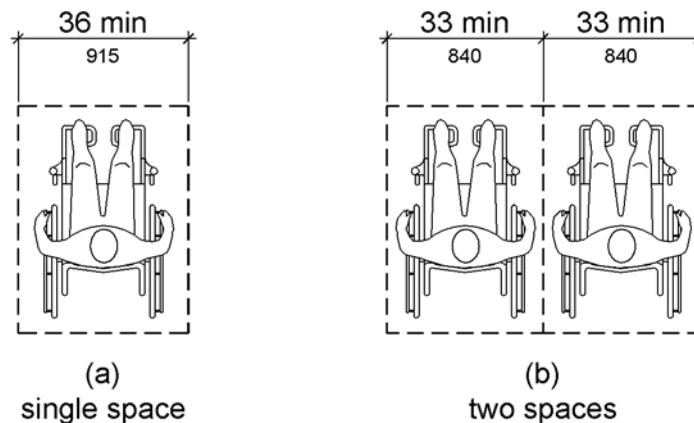
### 802 Wheelchair Spaces, Companion Seats, and Designated Aisle Seats

**802.1 Wheelchair Spaces.** *Wheelchair spaces* shall comply with 802.1.

**802.1.1 Floor or Ground Surface.** The floor or ground surface of *wheelchair spaces* shall comply with 302. Changes in level are not permitted.

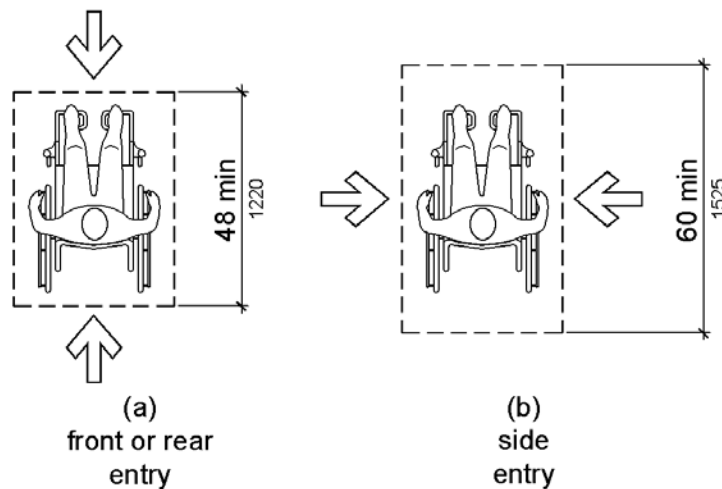
**EXCEPTION:** Slopes not steeper than 1:48 shall be permitted.

**802.1.2 Width.** A single *wheelchair space* shall be 36 inches (915 mm) wide minimum. Where two adjacent *wheelchair spaces* are provided, each *wheelchair space* shall be 33 inches (840 mm) wide minimum.



**Figure 802.1.2**  
**Width of Wheelchair Spaces**

**802.1.3 Depth.** Where a *wheelchair space* can be entered from the front or rear, the *wheelchair space* shall be 48 inches (1220 mm) deep minimum. Where a *wheelchair space* can be entered only from the side, the *wheelchair space* shall be 60 inches (1525 mm) deep minimum.



**Figure 802.1.3**  
**Depth of Wheelchair Spaces**

**802.1.4 Approach.** *Wheelchair spaces shall adjoin accessible routes. Accessible routes shall not overlap wheelchair spaces.*

**Advisory 802.1.4 Approach.** Because accessible routes serving wheelchair spaces are not permitted to overlap the clear floor space at wheelchair spaces, access to any wheelchair space cannot be through another wheelchair space.

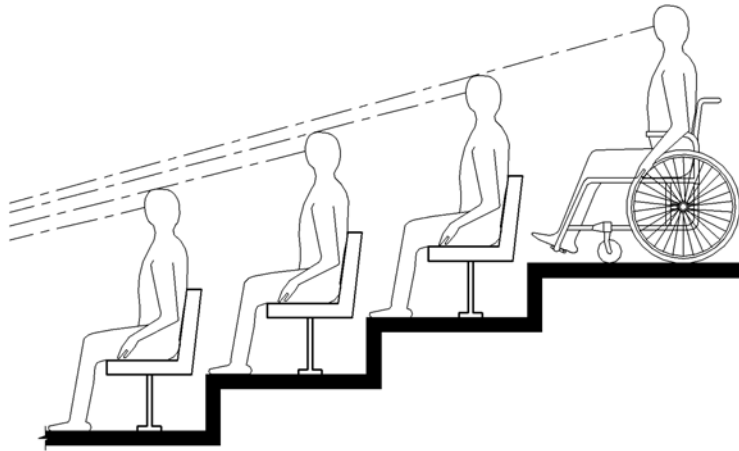
**802.1.5 Overlap.** *Wheelchair spaces shall not overlap circulation paths.*

**Advisory 802.1.5 Overlap.** The term “circulation paths” used in Section 802.1.5 means aisle width required by applicable building or life safety codes for the specific assembly occupancy. Where the circulation path provided is wider than the required aisle width, the wheelchair space may intrude into that portion of the circulation path that is provided in excess of the required aisle width.

**802.2 Lines of Sight.** Lines of sight to the screen, performance area, or playing field for spectators in *wheelchair spaces* shall comply with 802.2.

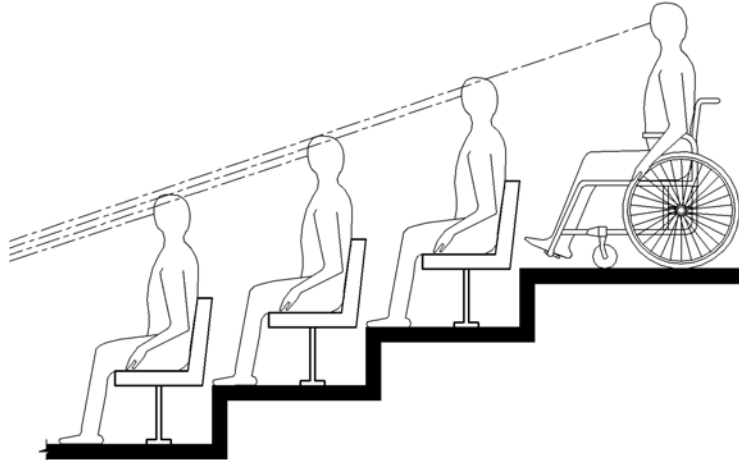
**802.2.1 Lines of Sight Over Seated Spectators.** Where spectators are expected to remain seated during events, spectators in *wheelchair spaces* shall be afforded lines of sight complying with 802.2.1.

**802.2.1.1 Lines of Sight Over Heads.** Where spectators are provided lines of sight over the heads of spectators seated in the first row in front of their seats, spectators seated in *wheelchair spaces* shall be afforded lines of sight over the heads of seated spectators in the first row in front of *wheelchair spaces*.



**Figure 802.2.1.1**  
**Lines of Sight Over the Heads of Seated Spectators**

**802.2.1.2 Lines of Sight Between Heads.** Where spectators are provided lines of sight over the shoulders and between the heads of spectators seated in the first row in front of their seats, spectators seated in *wheelchair spaces* shall be afforded lines of sight over the shoulders and between the heads of seated spectators in the first row in front of *wheelchair spaces*.

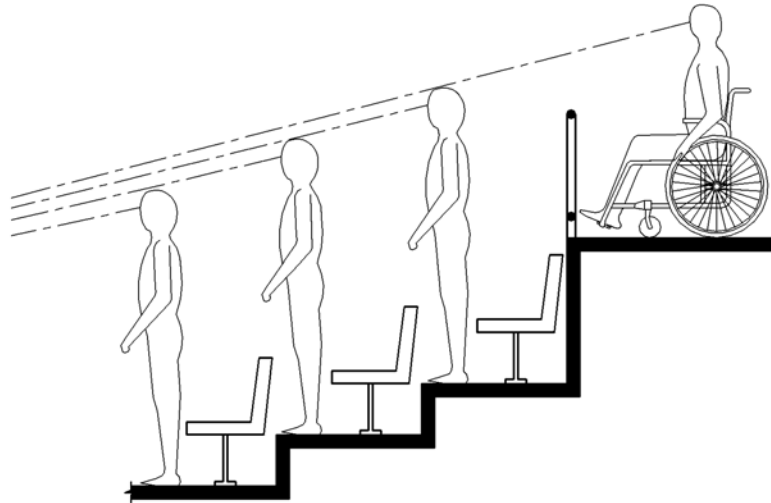


**Figure 802.2.1.2**  
**Lines of Sight Between the Heads of Seated Spectators**

**802.2.2 Lines of Sight Over Standing Spectators.** Where spectators are expected to stand during events, spectators in *wheelchair spaces* shall be afforded lines of sight complying with 802.2.2.

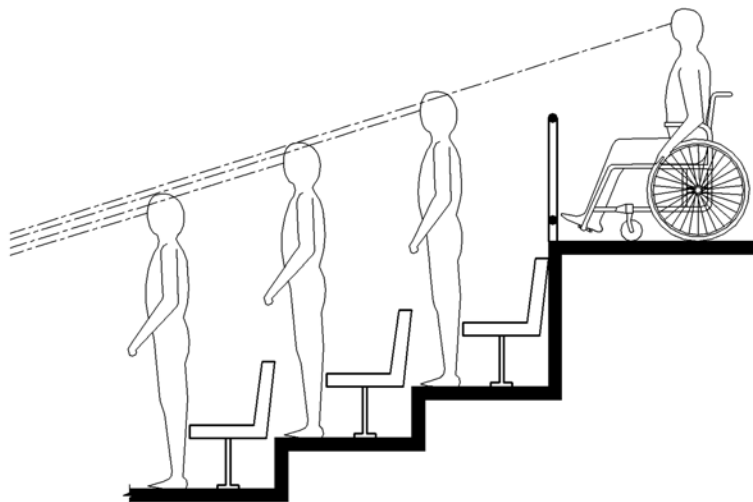
**802.2.2.1 Lines of Sight Over Heads.** Where standing spectators are provided lines of sight over the heads of spectators standing in the first row in front of their seats, spectators seated in

*wheelchair spaces* shall be afforded lines of sight over the heads of standing spectators in the first row in front of *wheelchair spaces*.



**Figure 802.2.2.1**  
**Lines of Sight Over the Heads of Standing Spectators**

**802.2.2.2 Lines of Sight Between Heads.** Where standing spectators are provided lines of sight over the shoulders and between the heads of spectators standing in the first row in front of their seats, spectators seated in *wheelchair spaces* shall be afforded lines of sight over the shoulders and between the heads of standing spectators in the first row in front of *wheelchair spaces*.



**Figure 802.2.2.2**  
**Lines of Sight Between the Heads of Standing Spectators**

**802.3 Companion Seats.** Companion seats shall comply with 802.3.

**802.3.1 Alignment.** In row seating, companion seats shall be located to provide shoulder alignment with adjacent *wheelchair spaces*. The shoulder alignment point of the *wheelchair space* shall be measured 36 inches (915 mm) from the front of the *wheelchair space*. The floor surface of the companion seat shall be at the same elevation as the floor surface of the *wheelchair space*.

**802.3.2 Type.** Companion seats shall be equivalent in size, quality, comfort, and amenities to the seating in the immediate area. Companion seats shall be permitted to be movable.

**802.4 Designated Aisle Seats.** Designated aisle seats shall comply with 802.4.

**802.4.1 Armrests.** Where armrests are provided on the seating in the immediate area, folding or retractable armrests shall be provided on the aisle side of the seat.

**802.4.2 Identification.** Each designated aisle seat shall be identified by a sign or marker.

**Advisory 802.4.2 Identification.** Seats with folding or retractable armrests are intended for use by individuals who have difficulty walking. Consider identifying such seats with signs that contrast (light-on-dark or dark-on-light) and that are also photo luminescent.

**803 Dressing, Fitting, and Locker Rooms****803.1 General.** Dressing, fitting, and locker rooms shall comply with 803.

**Advisory 803.1 General.** Partitions and doors should be designed to ensure people using accessible dressing and fitting rooms privacy equivalent to that afforded other users of the facility. Section 903.5 requires dressing room bench seats to be installed so that they are at the same height as a typical wheelchair seat, 17 inches (430 mm) to 19 inches (485 mm). However, wheelchair seats can be lower than dressing room benches for people of short stature or children using wheelchairs.

**803.2 Turning Space.** Turning space complying with 304 shall be provided within the room.

**803.3 Door Swing.** Doors shall not swing into the room unless a clear floor or ground space complying with 305.3 is provided beyond the arc of the door swing.

**803.4 Benches.** A bench complying with 903 shall be provided within the room.

**803.5 Coat Hooks and Shelves.** Coat hooks provided within the room shall be located within one of the reach ranges specified in 308. Shelves shall be 40 inches (1015 mm) minimum and 48 inches (1220 mm) maximum above the finish floor or ground.

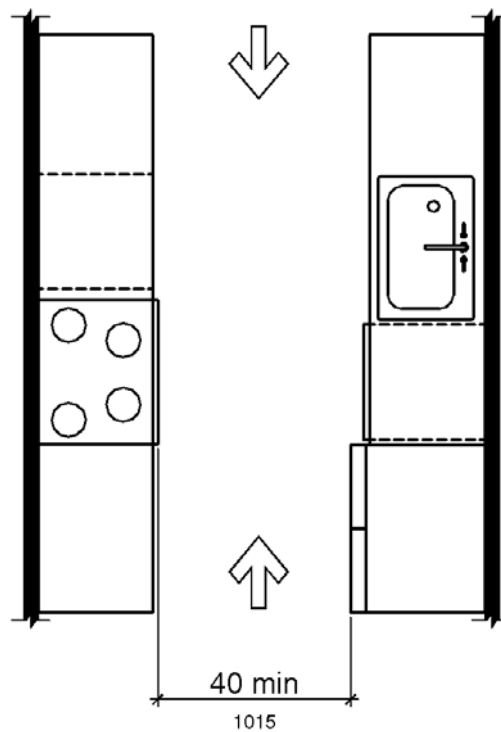
**804 Kitchens and Kitchenettes****804.1 General.** Kitchens and kitchenettes shall comply with 804.

**804.2 Clearance.** Where a pass through kitchen is provided, clearances shall comply with 804.2.1. Where a U-shaped kitchen is provided, clearances shall comply with 804.2.2.

**EXCEPTION:** Spaces that do not provide a cooktop or conventional range shall not be required to comply with 804.2.

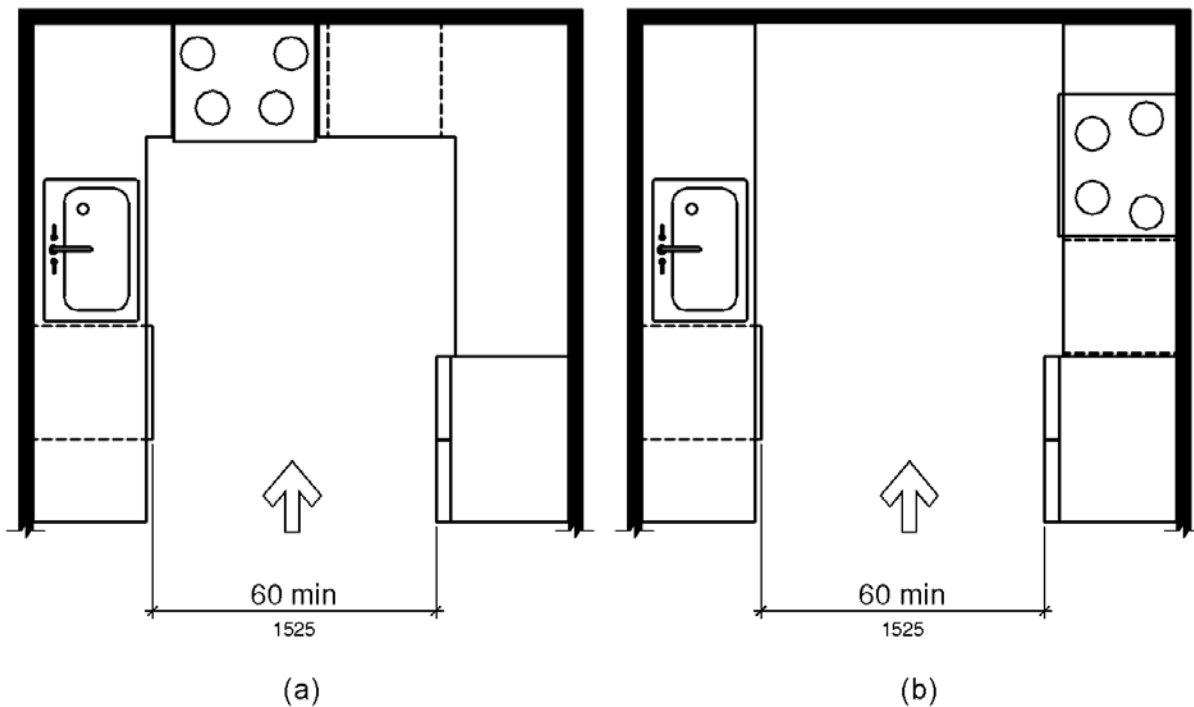
**Advisory 804.2 Clearance.** Clearances are measured from the furthest projecting face of all opposing base cabinets, counter tops, appliances, or walls, excluding hardware.

**804.2.1 Pass Through Kitchen.** In pass through kitchens where counters, appliances or cabinets are on two opposing sides, or where counters, appliances or cabinets are opposite a parallel wall, clearance between all opposing base cabinets, counter tops, appliances, or walls within kitchen work areas shall be 40 inches (1015 mm) minimum. Pass through kitchens shall have two entries.



**Figure 804.2.1**  
**Pass Through Kitchens**

**804.2.2 U-Shaped.** In U-shaped kitchens enclosed on three contiguous sides, clearance between all opposing base cabinets, counter tops, appliances, or walls within kitchen work areas shall be 60 inches (1525 mm) minimum.



**Figure 804.2.2**  
**U-Shaped Kitchens**

**804.3 Kitchen Work Surface.** In *residential dwelling units* required to comply with 809, at least one 30 inches (760 mm) wide minimum section of counter shall provide a kitchen work surface that complies with 804.3.

**804.3.1 Clear Floor or Ground Space.** A clear floor *space* complying with 305 positioned for a forward approach shall be provided. The clear floor or ground *space* shall be centered on the kitchen work surface and shall provide knee and toe clearance complying with 306.

**EXCEPTION:** Cabinetry shall be permitted under the kitchen work surface provided that all of the following conditions are met:

- (a) the cabinetry can be removed without removal or replacement of the kitchen work surface;
- (b) the finish floor extends under the cabinetry; and
- (c) the walls behind and surrounding the cabinetry are finished.

**804.3.2 Height.** The kitchen work surface shall be 34 inches (865 mm) maximum above the finish floor or ground.

**EXCEPTION:** A counter that is adjustable to provide a kitchen work surface at variable heights, 29 inches (735 mm) minimum and 36 inches (915 mm) maximum, shall be permitted.

**804.3.3 Exposed Surfaces.** There shall be no sharp or abrasive surfaces under the work surface counters.

**804.4 Sinks.** Sinks shall comply with 606.

**804.5 Storage.** At least 50 percent of shelf *space* in storage *facilities* shall comply with 811.

**804.6 Appliances.** Where provided, kitchen appliances shall comply with 804.6.

**804.6.1 Clear Floor or Ground Space.** A clear floor or ground *space* complying with 305 shall be provided at each kitchen appliance. Clear floor or ground *spaces* shall be permitted to overlap.

**804.6.2 Operable Parts.** All appliance controls shall comply with 309.

**EXCEPTIONS:** 1. Appliance doors and door latching devices shall not be required to comply with 309.4.

2. Bottom-hinged appliance doors, when in the open position, shall not be required to comply with 309.3.

**804.6.3 Dishwasher.** Clear floor or ground *space* shall be positioned adjacent to the dishwasher door. The dishwasher door, in the open position, shall not obstruct the clear floor or ground *space* for the dishwasher or the sink.

**804.6.4 Range or Cooktop.** Where a forward approach is provided, the clear floor or ground *space* shall provide knee and toe clearance complying with 306. Where knee and toe *space* is provided, the underside of the range or cooktop shall be insulated or otherwise configured to prevent burns, abrasions, or electrical shock. The location of controls shall not require reaching across burners.

**804.6.5 Oven.** Ovens shall comply with 804.6.5.

**804.6.5.1 Side-Hinged Door Ovens.** Side-hinged door ovens shall have the work surface required by 804.3 positioned adjacent to the latch side of the oven door.

**804.6.5.2 Bottom-Hinged Door Ovens.** Bottom-hinged door ovens shall have the work surface required by 804.3 positioned adjacent to one side of the door.

**804.6.5.3 Controls.** Ovens shall have controls on front panels.

**804.6.6 Refrigerator/Freezer.** Combination refrigerators and freezers shall have at least 50 percent of the freezer *space* 54 inches (1370 mm) maximum above the finish floor or ground. The clear floor or ground *space* shall be positioned for a parallel approach to the *space* dedicated to a refrigerator/freezer with the centerline of the clear floor or ground *space* offset 24 inches (610 mm) maximum from the centerline of the dedicated *space*.

## **805 Medical Care and Long-Term Care Facilities**

**805.1 General.** Medical care *facility* and long-term care *facility* patient or resident sleeping rooms required to provide mobility features shall comply with 805.

**805.2 Turning Space.** Turning *space* complying with 304 shall be provided within the room.



**805.3 Clear Floor or Ground Space.** A clear floor *space* complying with 305 shall be provided on each side of the bed. The clear floor *space* shall be positioned for parallel approach to the side of the bed.

**805.4 Toilet and Bathing Rooms.** Toilet and bathing rooms that are provided as part of a patient or resident sleeping room shall comply with 603. Where provided, no fewer than one water closet, one lavatory, and one bathtub or shower shall comply with the applicable requirements of 603 through 610.

## **806 Transient Lodging Guest Rooms**

**806.1 General.** *Transient lodging* guest rooms shall comply with 806. Guest rooms required to provide mobility features shall comply with 806.2. Guest rooms required to provide communication features shall comply with 806.3.

**806.2 Guest Rooms with Mobility Features.** Guest rooms required to provide mobility features shall comply with 806.2.

**Advisory 806.2 Guest Rooms.** The requirements in Section 806.2 do not include requirements that are common to all accessible spaces. For example, closets in guest rooms must comply with the applicable provisions for storage specified in scoping.

**806.2.1 Living and Dining Areas.** Living and dining areas shall be *accessible*.

**806.2.2 Exterior Spaces.** Exterior *spaces*, including patios, terraces and balconies, that serve the guest room shall be *accessible*.

**806.2.3 Sleeping Areas.** At least one sleeping area shall provide a clear floor *space* complying with 305 on both sides of a bed. The clear floor *space* shall be positioned for parallel approach to the side of the bed.

**EXCEPTION:** Where a single clear floor *space* complying with 305 positioned for parallel approach is provided between two beds, a clear floor or ground space shall not be required on both sides of a bed.

**806.2.4 Toilet and Bathing Facilities.** No fewer than one water closet, one lavatory, and one bathtub or shower shall comply with 603. In addition, required roll-in shower compartments shall comply with 608.2.2 or 608.2.3.

**806.2.4.1 Vanity Counter Top Space.** If vanity counter top *space* is provided in non-*accessible* guest toilet or bathing rooms, comparable vanity counter top *space*, in terms of size and proximity to the lavatory, shall also be provided in *accessible* guest toilet or bathing rooms.

**Advisory 806.2.4.1 Vanity Counter Top Space.** This provision is intended to ensure that accessible guest rooms are provided with comparable vanity counter top space.

**806.2.5 Kitchens and Kitchenettes.** Kitchens and kitchenettes shall comply with 804.

**806.2.6 Turning Space.** Turning *space* complying with 304 shall be provided within the guest room.

**806.3 Guest Rooms with Communication Features.** Guest rooms required to provide communication features shall comply with 806.3.

**Advisory 806.3 Guest Rooms with Communication Features.** In guest rooms required to have accessible communication features, consider ensuring compatibility with adaptive equipment used by people with hearing impairments. To ensure communication within the facility, as well as on commercial lines, provide telephone interface jacks that are compatible with both digital and analog signal use. If an audio headphone jack is provided on a speaker phone, a cutoff switch can be included in the jack so that insertion of the jack cuts off the speaker. If a telephone-like handset is used, the external speakers can be turned off when the handset is removed from the cradle. For headset or external amplification system compatibility, a standard subminiature jack installed in the telephone will provide the most flexibility.

**806.3.1 Alarms.** Where emergency warning systems are provided, alarms complying with 702 shall be provided.

**806.3.2 Notification Devices.** Visible notification devices shall be provided to alert room occupants of incoming telephone calls and a door knock or bell. Notification devices shall not be connected to visible alarm signal appliances. Telephones shall have volume controls compatible with the telephone system and shall comply with 704.3. Telephones shall be served by an electrical outlet complying with 309 located within 48 inches (1220 mm) of the telephone to facilitate the use of a TTY.

## **807 Holding Cells and Housing Cells**

**807.1 General.** Holding cells and housing cells shall comply with 807.

**807.2 Cells with Mobility Features.** Cells required to provide mobility features shall comply with 807.2.

**807.2.1 Turning Space.** Turning *space* complying with 304 shall be provided within the cell.

**807.2.2 Benches.** Where benches are provided, at least one bench shall comply with 903.

**807.2.3 Beds.** Where beds are provided, clear floor *space* complying with 305 shall be provided on at least one side of the bed. The clear floor *space* shall be positioned for parallel approach to the side of the bed.

**807.2.4 Toilet and Bathing Facilities.** Toilet *facilities* or bathing *facilities* that are provided as part of a cell shall comply with 603. Where provided, no fewer than one water closet, one lavatory, and one bathtub or shower shall comply with the applicable requirements of 603 through 610.

**Advisory 807.2.4 Toilet and Bathing Facilities.** In holding cells, housing cells, or rooms required to be accessible, these requirements do not require a separate toilet room.

**807.3 Cells with Communication Features.** Cells required to provide communication features shall comply with 807.3.

**807.3.1 Alarms.** Where audible emergency alarm systems are provided to serve the occupants of cells, visible alarms complying with 702 shall be provided.

**EXCEPTION:** Visible alarms shall not be required where inmates or detainees are not allowed independent means of egress.

**807.3.2 Telephones.** Telephones, where provided within cells, shall have volume controls complying with 704.3.

## **808 Courtrooms**

**808.1 General.** Courtrooms shall comply with 808.

**808.2 Turning Space.** Where provided, areas that are raised or depressed and accessed by *ramps* or platform lifts with entry *ramps* shall provide unobstructed turning *space* complying with 304.

**808.3 Clear Floor Space.** Each jury box and witness stand shall have, within its defined area, clear floor *space* complying with 305.

**EXCEPTION:** In *alterations*, *wheelchair spaces* are not required to be located within the defined area of raised jury boxes or witness stands and shall be permitted to be located outside these *spaces* where *ramp* or platform lift access poses a hazard by restricting or projecting into a means of egress required by the appropriate *administrative authority*.

**808.4 Judges' Benches and Courtroom Stations.** Judges' benches, clerks' stations, bailiffs' stations, deputy clerks' stations, court reporters' stations and litigants' and counsel stations shall comply with 902.

## **809 Residential Dwelling Units**

**809.1 General.** *Residential dwelling units* shall comply with 809. *Residential dwelling units* required to provide mobility features shall comply with 809.2 through 809.4. *Residential dwelling units* required to provide communication features shall comply with 809.5.

**809.2 Accessible Routes.** *Accessible* routes complying with Chapter 4 shall be provided within *residential dwelling units* in accordance with 809.2.

**EXCEPTION:** *Accessible* routes shall not be required to or within unfinished attics or unfinished basements.

**809.2.1 Location.** At least one *accessible* route shall connect all *spaces* and *elements* which are a part of the *residential dwelling unit*. Where only one *accessible* route is provided, it shall not pass through bathrooms, closets, or similar *spaces*.

**809.2.2 Turning Space.** All rooms served by an *accessible* route shall provide a turning *space* complying with 304.

**EXCEPTION:** Turning space shall not be required in exterior spaces 30 inches (760 mm) maximum in depth or width.

**Advisory 809.2.2 Turning Space.** It is generally acceptable to use required clearances to provide wheelchair turning space. For example, in kitchens, 804.3.1 requires at least one work surface with clear floor space complying with 306 to be centered beneath. If designers elect to provide clear floor space that is at least 36 inches (915 mm) wide, as opposed to the required 30 inches (760 mm) wide, that clearance can be part of a T-turn, thereby maximizing efficient use of the kitchen area. However, the overlap of turning space must be limited to one segment of the T-turn so that back-up maneuvering is not restricted. It would, therefore, be unacceptable to use both the clearances under the work surface and the sink as part of a T-turn. See Section 304.3.2 regarding T-turns.

**809.3 Kitchen.** Where a kitchen is provided, it shall comply with 804.

**809.4 Toilet Facilities and Bathing Facilities.** At least one toilet *facility* and bathing *facility* shall comply with 603 through 610. At least one of each type of fixture provided shall comply with applicable requirements of 603 through 610. Toilet and bathing fixtures required to comply with 603 through 610 shall be located in the same toilet and bathing area, such that travel between fixtures does not require travel between other parts of the *residential dwelling unit*.

**Advisory 809.4 Toilet Facilities and Bathing Facilities.** All toilet rooms and bathing rooms in accessible residential dwelling units must be accessible. In addition, at least one of each type of fixture in accessible toilet rooms and bathing rooms must be accessible.

In an effort to promote space efficiency, vanity counter top space in accessible residential dwelling units is often omitted. This omission does not promote equal access or equal enjoyment of the unit. Where comparable units have vanity counter tops, accessible units should also have vanity counter tops located as close as possible to the lavatory for convenient access to toiletries.

**809.5 Residential Dwelling Units with Communication Features.** *Residential dwelling units* required to provide communication features shall comply with 809.5.

**809.5.1 Building Fire Alarm System.** Where a *building* fire alarm system is provided, the system wiring shall be extended to a point within the *residential dwelling unit* in the vicinity of the *residential dwelling unit* smoke detection system.

**809.5.1.1 Alarm Appliances.** Where alarm appliances are provided within a *residential dwelling unit* as part of the *building* fire alarm system, they shall comply with 702.

**809.5.1.2 Activation.** All visible alarm appliances provided within the *residential dwelling unit* for *building* fire alarm notification shall be activated upon activation of the *building* fire alarm in the portion of the *building* containing the *residential dwelling unit*.

**809.5.2 Residential Dwelling Unit Smoke Detection System.** *Residential dwelling unit* smoke detection systems shall comply with NFPA 72 (1999 or 2002 edition) (incorporated by reference, see “Referenced Standards” in Chapter 1).

**809.5.2.2 Activation.** All visible alarm appliances provided within the *residential dwelling unit* for smoke detection notification shall be activated upon smoke detection.

**809.5.3 Interconnection.** The same visible alarm appliances shall be permitted to provide notification of *residential dwelling unit* smoke detection and *building* fire alarm activation.

**809.5.4 Prohibited Use.** Visible alarm appliances used to indicate *residential dwelling unit* smoke detection or *building* fire alarm activation shall not be used for any other purpose within the *residential dwelling unit*.

**809.5.5 Residential Dwelling Unit Primary Entrance.** Communication features shall be provided at the *residential dwelling unit* primary entrance complying with 809.5.5.

**809.5.5.1 Notification.** A hard-wired electric doorbell shall be provided. A button or switch shall be provided outside the *residential dwelling unit* primary entrance. Activation of the button or switch shall initiate an audible tone and visible signal within the *residential dwelling unit*. Where visible doorbell signals are located in sleeping areas, they shall have controls to deactivate the signal.

**809.5.5.2 Identification.** A means for visually identifying a visitor without opening the *residential dwelling unit* entry door shall be provided and shall allow for a minimum 180 degree range of view.

**Advisory 809.5.5.2 Identification.** In doors, peepholes that include prisms clarify the image and should offer a wide-angle view of the hallway or exterior for both standing persons and wheelchair users. Such peepholes can be placed at a standard height and permit a view from several feet from the door.

**809.5.6 Site, Building, or Floor Entrance.** Where a system, including a closed-circuit system, permitting voice communication between a visitor and the occupant of the *residential dwelling unit* is provided, the system shall comply with 708.4.

## **810 Transportation Facilities**

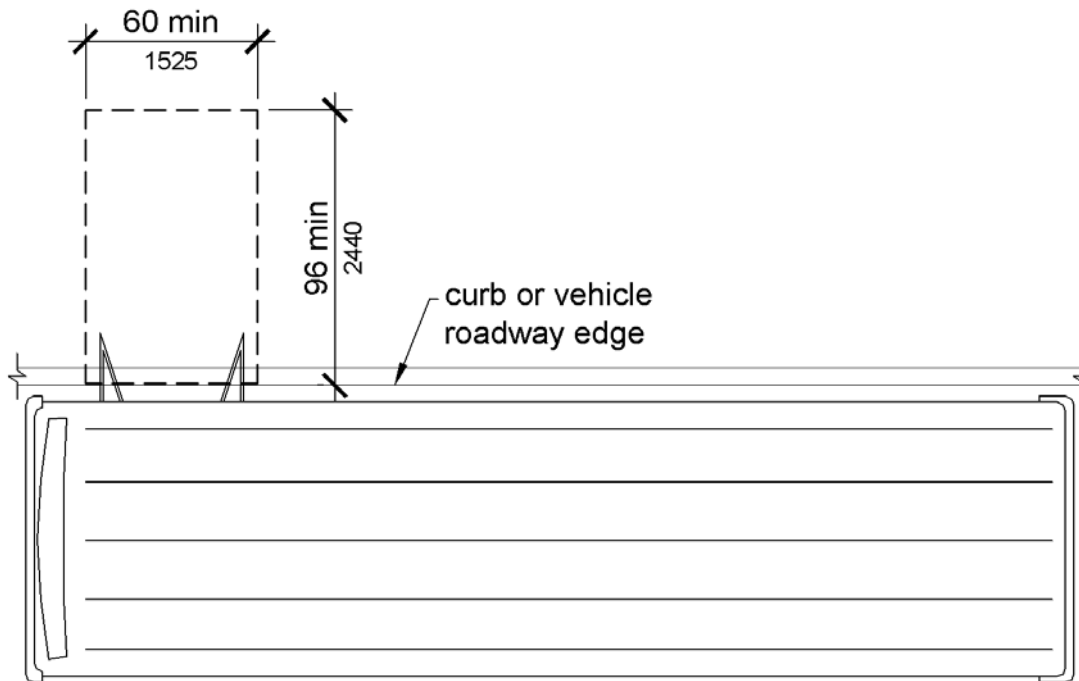
**810.1 General.** Transportation *facilities* shall comply with 810.

**810.2 Bus Boarding and Alighting Areas.** Bus boarding and alighting areas shall comply with 810.2.

**Advisory 810.2 Bus Boarding and Alighting Areas.** At bus stops where a shelter is provided, the bus stop pad can be located either within or outside of the shelter.

**810.2.1 Surface.** Bus stop boarding and alighting areas shall have a firm, stable surface.

**810.2.2 Dimensions.** Bus stop boarding and alighting areas shall provide a clear length of 96 inches (2440 mm) minimum, measured perpendicular to the curb or vehicle roadway edge, and a clear width of 60 inches (1525 mm) minimum, measured parallel to the vehicle roadway.

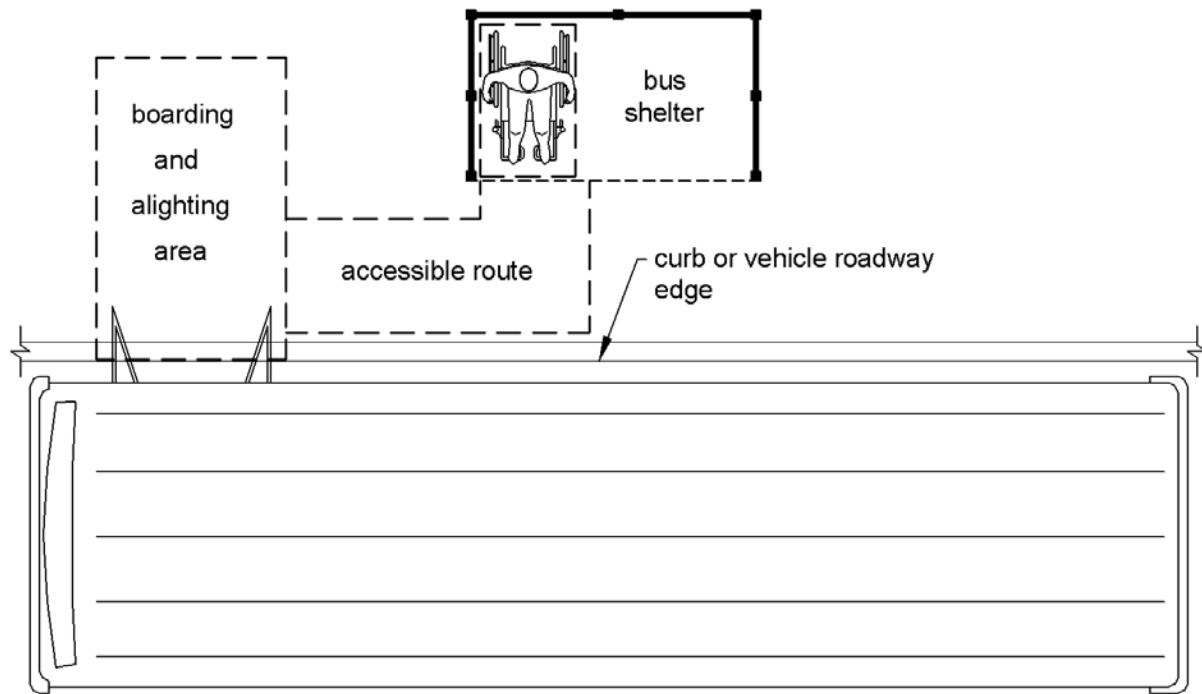


**Figure 810.2.2**  
**Dimensions of Bus Boarding and Alighting Areas**

**810.2.3 Connection.** Bus stop boarding and alighting areas shall be connected to streets, sidewalks, or pedestrian paths by an *accessible* route complying with 402.

**810.2.4 Slope.** Parallel to the roadway, the slope of the bus stop boarding and alighting area shall be the same as the roadway, to the maximum extent practicable. Perpendicular to the roadway, the slope of the bus stop boarding and alighting area shall not be steeper than 1:48.

**810.3 Bus Shelters.** Bus shelters shall provide a minimum clear floor or ground *space* complying with 305 entirely within the shelter. Bus shelters shall be connected by an *accessible* route complying with 402 to a boarding and alighting area complying with 810.2.



**Figure 810.3**  
**Bus Shelters**

**810.4 Bus Signs.** Bus route identification signs shall comply with 703.5.1 through 703.5.4, and 703.5.7 and 703.5.8. In addition, to the maximum extent practicable, bus route identification signs shall comply with 703.5.5.

**EXCEPTION:** Bus schedules, timetables and maps that are posted at the bus stop or bus bay shall not be required to comply.

**810.5 Rail Platforms.** Rail platforms shall comply with 810.5.

**810.5.1 Slope.** Rail platforms shall not exceed a slope of 1:48 in all directions.

**EXCEPTION:** Where platforms serve vehicles operating on existing track or track laid in existing roadway, the slope of the platform parallel to the track shall be permitted to be equal to the slope (grade) of the roadway or existing track.

**810.5.2 Detectable Warnings.** Platform boarding edges not protected by platform screens or guards shall have *detectable warnings* complying with 705 along the full length of the *public use area* of the platform.

**810.5.3 Platform and Vehicle Floor Coordination.** Station platforms shall be positioned to coordinate with vehicles in accordance with the applicable requirements of 36 CFR Part 1192. Low-level platforms shall be 8 inches (205 mm) minimum above top of rail.

**EXCEPTION:** Where vehicles are boarded from sidewalks or street-level, low-level platforms shall be permitted to be less than 8 inches (205 mm).

**Advisory 810.5.3 Platform and Vehicle Floor Coordination.** The height and position of a platform must be coordinated with the floor of the vehicles it serves to minimize the vertical and horizontal gaps, in accordance with the ADA Accessibility Guidelines for Transportation Vehicles (36 CFR Part 1192). The vehicle guidelines, divided by bus, van, light rail, rapid rail, commuter rail, intercity rail, are available at [www.access-board.gov](http://www.access-board.gov). The preferred alignment is a high platform, level with the vehicle floor. In some cases, the vehicle guidelines permit use of a low platform in conjunction with a lift or ramp. Most such low platforms must have a minimum height of eight inches above the top of the rail. Some vehicles are designed to be boarded from a street or the sidewalk along the street and the exception permits such boarding areas to be less than eight inches high.

**810.6 Rail Station Signs.** Rail station signs shall comply with 810.6.

**EXCEPTION.** Signs shall not be required to comply with 810.6.1 and 810.6.2 where audible signs are remotely transmitted to hand-held receivers, or are user- or proximity-actuated.

**Advisory 810.6 Rail Station Signs Exception.** Emerging technologies such as an audible sign systems using infrared transmitters and receivers may provide greater accessibility in the transit environment than traditional Braille and raised letter signs. The transmitters are placed on or next to print signs and transmit their information to an infrared receiver that is held by a person. By scanning an area, the person will hear the sign. This means that signs can be placed well out of reach of Braille readers, even on parapet walls and on walls beyond barriers. Additionally, such signs can be used to provide wayfinding information that cannot be efficiently conveyed on Braille signs.

**810.6.1 Entrances.** Where signs identify a station or its *entrance*, at least one sign at each *entrance* shall comply with 703.2 and shall be placed in uniform locations to the maximum extent practicable. Where signs identify a station that has no defined *entrance*, at least one sign shall comply with 703.2 and shall be placed in a central location.

**810.6.2 Routes and Destinations.** Lists of stations, routes and destinations served by the station which are located on boarding areas, platforms, or *mezzanines* shall comply with 703.5. At least one *tactile* sign identifying the specific station and complying with 703.2 shall be provided on each platform or boarding area. Signs covered by this requirement shall, to the maximum extent practicable, be placed in uniform locations within the system.

**EXCEPTION:** Where sign *space* is limited, *characters* shall not be required to exceed 3 inches (75 mm).

**Advisory 810.6.2 Routes and Destinations.** Route maps are not required to comply with the informational sign requirements in this document.



**810.6.3 Station Names.** Stations covered by this section shall have identification signs complying with 703.5. Signs shall be clearly visible and within the sight lines of standing and sitting passengers from within the vehicle on both sides when not obstructed by another vehicle.

**Advisory 810.6.3 Station Names.** It is also important to place signs at intervals in the station where passengers in the vehicle will be able to see a sign when the vehicle is either stopped at the station or about to come to a stop in the station. The number of signs necessary may be directly related to the size of the lettering displayed on the sign.

**810.7 Public Address Systems.** Where public address systems convey audible information to the public, the same or equivalent information shall be provided in a visual format.

**810.8 Clocks.** Where clocks are provided for use by the public, the clock face shall be uncluttered so that its *elements* are clearly visible. Hands, numerals and digits shall contrast with the background either light-on-dark or dark-on-light. Where clocks are installed overhead, numerals and digits shall comply with 703.5.

**810.9 Escalators.** Where provided, escalators shall comply with the sections 6.1.3.5.6 and 6.1.3.6.5 of ASME A17.1 (incorporated by reference, see “Referenced Standards” in Chapter 1) and shall have a clear width of 32 inches (815 mm) minimum.

**EXCEPTION:** Existing escalators in *key stations* shall not be required to comply with 810.9.

**810.10 Track Crossings.** Where a *circulation path* serving boarding platforms crosses tracks, it shall comply with 402.

**EXCEPTION:** Openings for wheel flanges shall be permitted to be 2½ inches (64 mm) maximum.



**Figure 810.10 (Exception)  
Track Crossings**

## 811 Storage

**811.1 General.** Storage shall comply with 811.

**811.2 Clear Floor or Ground Space.** A clear floor or ground *space* complying with 305 shall be provided.

**811.3 Height.** Storage *elements* shall comply with at least one of the reach ranges specified in 308.

**811.4 Operable Parts.** *Operable parts* shall comply with 309.

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## CHAPTER 9: BUILT-IN ELEMENTS

### 901 General

**901.1 Scope.** The provisions of Chapter 9 shall apply where required by Chapter 2 or where referenced by a requirement in this document.

### 902 Dining Surfaces and Work Surfaces

**902.1 General.** Dining surfaces and work surfaces shall comply with 902.2 and 902.3.

**EXCEPTION:** Dining surfaces and work surfaces for *children's use* shall be permitted to comply with 902.4.

**Advisory 902.1 General.** Dining surfaces include, but are not limited to, bars, tables, lunch counters, and booths. Examples of work surfaces include writing surfaces, study carrels, student laboratory stations, baby changing and other tables or fixtures for personal grooming, coupon counters, and where covered by the ABA scoping provisions, employee work stations.

**902.2 Clear Floor or Ground Space.** A clear floor *space* complying with 305 positioned for a forward approach shall be provided. Knee and toe clearance complying with 306 shall be provided.

**902.3 Height.** The tops of dining surfaces and work surfaces shall be 28 inches (710 mm) minimum and 34 inches (865 mm) maximum above the finish floor or ground.

**902.4 Dining Surfaces and Work Surfaces for Children's Use.** *Accessible* dining surfaces and work surfaces for *children's use* shall comply with 902.4.

**EXCEPTION:** Dining surfaces and work surfaces that are used primarily by children 5 years and younger shall not be required to comply with 902.4 where a clear floor or ground *space* complying with 305 positioned for a parallel approach is provided.

**902.4.1 Clear Floor or Ground Space.** A clear floor *space* complying with 305 positioned for forward approach shall be provided. Knee and toe clearance complying with 306 shall be provided, except that knee clearance 24 inches (610 mm) minimum above the finish floor or ground shall be permitted.

**902.4.2 Height.** The tops of tables and counters shall be 26 inches (660 mm) minimum and 30 inches (760 mm) maximum above the finish floor or ground.

### 903 Benches

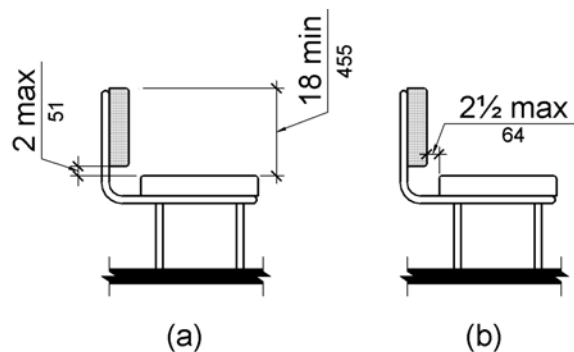
**903.1 General.** Benches shall comply with 903.

**903.2 Clear Floor or Ground Space.** Clear floor or ground *space* complying with 305 shall be provided and shall be positioned at the end of the bench seat and parallel to the short axis of the bench.

**903.3 Size.** Benches shall have seats that are 42 inches (1065 mm) long minimum and 20 inches (510 mm) deep minimum and 24 inches (610 mm) deep maximum.

**903.4 Back Support.** The bench shall provide for back support or shall be affixed to a wall. Back support shall be 42 inches (1065 mm) long minimum and shall extend from a point 2 inches (51 mm) maximum above the seat surface to a point 18 inches (455 mm) minimum above the seat surface. Back support shall be 2½ inches (64 mm) maximum from the rear edge of the seat measured horizontally.

**Advisory 903.4 Back Support.** To assist in transferring to the bench, consider providing grab bars on a wall adjacent to the bench, but not on the seat back. If provided, grab bars cannot obstruct transfer to the bench.



**Figure 903.4**  
**Bench Back Support**

**903.5 Height.** The top of the bench seat surface shall be 17 inches (430 mm) minimum and 19 inches (485 mm) maximum above the finish floor or ground.

**903.6 Structural Strength.** Allowable stresses shall not be exceeded for materials used when a vertical or horizontal force of 250 pounds (1112 N) is applied at any point on the seat, fastener, mounting device, or supporting structure.

**903.7 Wet Locations.** Where installed in wet locations, the surface of the seat shall be slip resistant and shall not accumulate water.

## **904 Check-Out Aisles and Sales and Service Counters**

**904.1 General.** Check-out aisles and sales and service counters shall comply with the applicable requirements of 904.

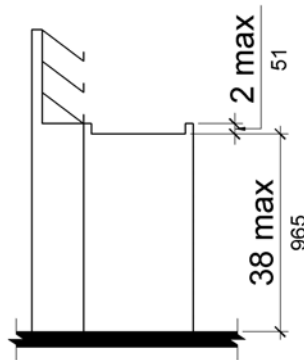
**904.2 Approach.** All portions of counters required to comply with 904 shall be located adjacent to a walking surface complying with 403.

**Advisory 904.2 Approach.** If a cash register is provided at the sales or service counter, locate the accessible counter close to the cash register so that a person using a wheelchair is visible to sales or service personnel and to minimize the reach for a person with a disability.

**904.3 Check-Out Aisles.** Check-out aisles shall comply with 904.3.

**904.3.1 Aisle.** Aisles shall comply with 403.

**904.3.2 Counter.** The counter surface height shall be 38 inches (965 mm) maximum above the finish floor or ground. The top of the counter edge protection shall be 2 inches (51 mm) maximum above the top of the counter surface on the aisle side of the check-out counter.

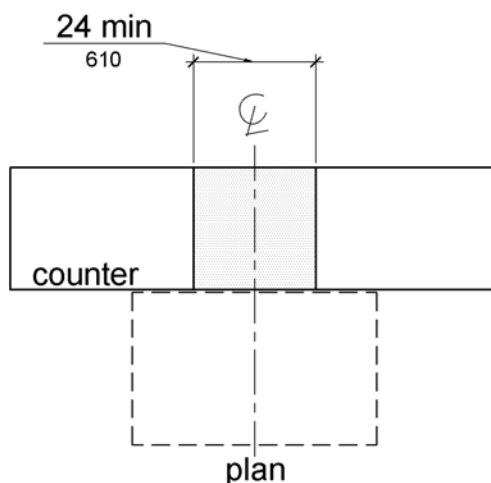


**Figure 904.3.2**  
**Check-Out Aisle Counters**

**904.3.3 Check Writing Surfaces.** Where provided, check writing surfaces shall comply with 902.3.

**904.4 Sales and Service Counters.** Sales counters and service counters shall comply with 904.4.1 or 904.4.2. The *accessible* portion of the counter top shall extend the same depth as the sales or service counter top.

**EXCEPTION:** In *alterations*, when the provision of a counter complying with 904.4 would result in a reduction of the number of existing counters at work stations or a reduction of the number of existing *mail boxes*, the counter shall be permitted to have a portion which is 24 inches (610 mm) long minimum complying with 904.4.1 provided that the required clear floor or ground *space* is centered on the *accessible* length of the counter.



**Figure 904.4 (Exception)**  
**Alteration of Sales and Service Counters**

**904.4.1 Parallel Approach.** A portion of the counter surface that is 36 inches (915 mm) long minimum and 36 inches (915 mm) high maximum above the finish floor shall be provided. A clear floor or ground *space* complying with 305 shall be positioned for a parallel approach adjacent to the 36 inch (915 mm) minimum length of counter.

**EXCEPTION:** Where the provided counter surface is less than 36 inches (915 mm) long, the entire counter surface shall be 36 inches (915 mm) high maximum above the finish floor.

**904.4.2 Forward Approach.** A portion of the counter surface that is 30 inches (760 mm) long minimum and 36 inches (915 mm) high maximum shall be provided. Knee and toe *space* complying with 306 shall be provided under the counter. A clear floor or ground *space* complying with 305 shall be positioned for a forward approach to the counter.

**904.5 Food Service Lines.** Counters in food service lines shall comply with 904.5.

**904.5.1 Self-Service Shelves and Dispensing Devices.** Self-service shelves and dispensing devices for tableware, dishware, condiments, food and beverages shall comply with 308.

**904.5.2 Tray Slides.** The tops of tray slides shall be 28 inches (710 mm) minimum and 34 inches (865 mm) maximum above the finish floor or ground.

**904.6 Security Glazing.** Where counters or teller windows have security glazing to separate personnel from the public, a method to facilitate voice communication shall be provided. Telephone handset devices, if provided, shall comply with 704.3.

**Advisory 904.6 Security Glazing.** Assistive listening devices complying with 706 can facilitate voice communication at counters or teller windows where there is security glazing which promotes distortion in audible information. Where assistive listening devices are installed, place signs complying with 703.7.2.4 to identify those facilities which are so equipped. Other voice communication methods include, but are not limited to, grilles, slats, talk-through baffles, intercoms, or telephone handset devices.

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## CHAPTER 10: RECREATION FACILITIES

### 1001 General — 1010.1 Turning Space\*

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*\*Chapter 10 of the accessibility guidelines issued by the Access Board refers to certain recreation facilities that are rarely included in Postal Service facilities. For this reason, the figures and text for Chapter 10 were not included in this handbook. Nevertheless, the Postal Service is subject to the requirements issued by the Access Board if a Postal Service facility or project includes such recreational facilities. All text and figures for Chapter 10 are included in Appendix D to 36 CFR Part 1191.*

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**224** \*Chapter 10 of the accessibility guidelines issued by the Access Board refers to certain recreation facilities that are rarely included in Postal Service facilities. For this reason, the figures and text for Chapter 10 were not included in this handbook. Nevertheless, the Postal Service is subject to the requirements issued by the Access Board if a Postal Service facility or project includes such recreational facilities. All text and figures for Chapter 10 are included in Appendix D to 36 CFR Part 1191. The List of Figures and Index for the complete set of accessibility guidelines are included in Appendix E to 36 CFR Part 1191.

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