

REQUIRED GUARDS (INTERIOR STAIRS)

ONTARIO BUILDING CODE

9.8.8.1. Required Guards

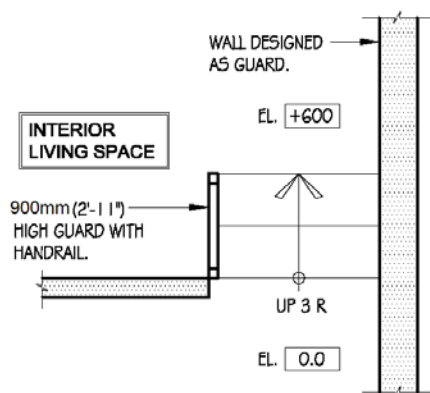
- (1) Except as provided in Sentence (2) and (3), every surface to which access is provided for other than maintenance purposes, including but not limited to flights of steps and ramps, exterior landings, porches, balconies, mezzanines, galleries and raised walkways, shall be protected by a guard on each side that is not protected by a wall for the length where,
 - (a) there is a difference in elevation of more than 600 mm between the walking surface and the adjacent surface, or
 - (b) the adjacent surface within 1.2 m (from the walking surface has a slope of more than 1 in 2.
- (2) Guards are not required,
 - (a) at loading docks,
 - (b) at floor pits in repair garages, or
 - (c) where access is provided for maintenance purposes only.

- (3) When an interior stair has more than 2 risers or an interior ramp rises more than 400 mm, the sides of the stair or ramp and the landing or floor level around the stairwell or ramp shall be protected by a guard on each side that is not protected by a wall.

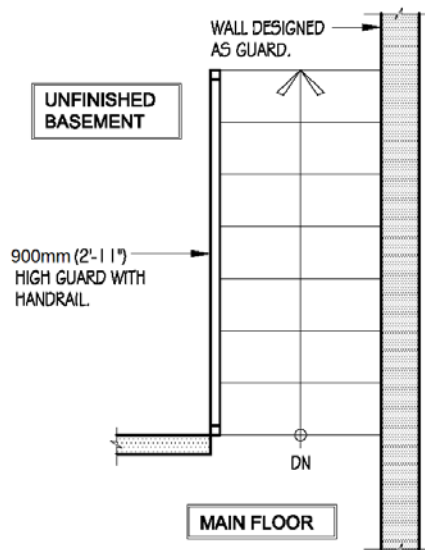
OBJECTIVE

Guards prevent persons from falling and injuring themselves. Therefore, all flights of steps, ramps, exterior landings, porches, balconies and mezzanines are required to be protected with guards on each side that are not protected by a wall. Interior stairs leading to unfinished basements also require guards on both sides of the stair. If the stair is protected on one side by a wall, the construction of the wall must meet all requirements for constructing a guard.

The other side of the stair must be protected by a guard and meet all requirements for constructing a guard for minimum height, permitted openings, design to prevent climbing, minimum loading design, and safety glass, if glass is provided. The illustrations below depict the location of required interior stair guards.



INTERIOR STAIR FIG. 1



INTERIOR STAIR FIG. 2