

Builder Tip SLIP RESISTANCE OF RAMPS AND STAIRS

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ONTARIO BUILDING CODE

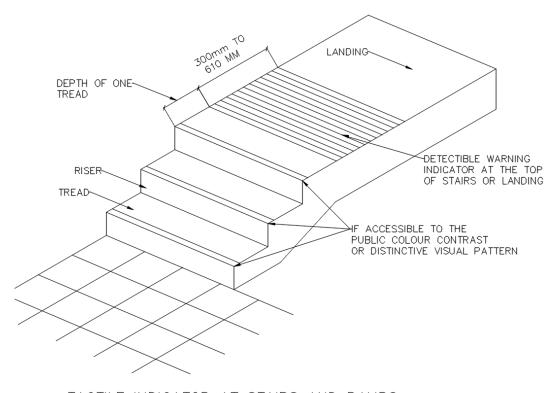
3.4.6.1. Surface Finish of Ramps and Stairs

- (1) The surfaces of ramps, landings and treads shall,
 - (a) have a finish that is slip resistant, and
 - (b) if accessible to the public, have a colour contrast or a distinctive visual pattern to demarcate,
 - (i) the leading edge of the tread,
 - (ii) the leading edge of the landing, and
 - (iii) the beginning and end of a ramp.
- (2) A tactile attention indicator conforming to Article 3.8.3.18. shall be installed,
 - (a) at the top of the stairs, starting one tread depth back from the edge of the top stair, and

- (b) at the leading edge of landings where a doorway opens onto stairs, starting one tread depth back from the edge of the landing.
- (3) Treads and landings of exterior exit stairs shall be designed to be free of ice and snow accumulation if the stairs.
 - (a) are more than 10 m high, or
 - (b) serve a hotel

OBJECTIVE

A tactile attention indicator strip signals a warning to people with no or low vision that they are approaching a change in level. The strip is set back from the leading edge of the stair to provide sufficient warning of the change in level in advance. The illustration below shows colour contrast strips on a stair tread and a tactile attention indicator



TACTILE INDICATOR AT STAIRS AND RAMPS

The Building Standards Department issues BUILDER TIPS as part of our customer service program. They are designed to provide an improved understanding of the Building Code and to reduce the costs associated with correcting infractions. Please contact your area building inspector for further information or call the Building Standards Department at (905) 475-4850