

Builder Tip

Issue No: 64 Issued Feb. 2008 Revised May 2015 Updated to 2012 Building Code

REQUIRED LOCATION OF GUARDS (ADJACENT INTERIOR/EXTERIOR LOWER SURFACE)

ONTARIO BUILDING CODE

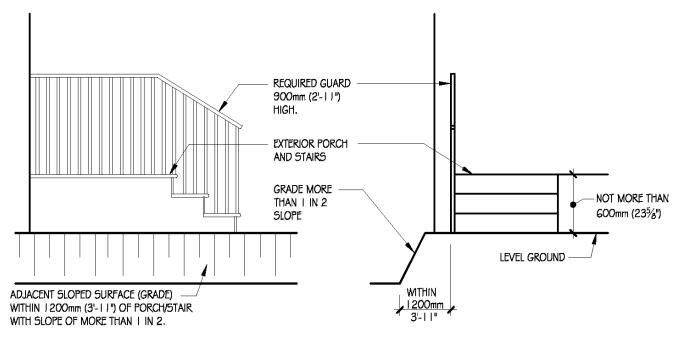
9.8.8.1. Required Guards

- (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 (23% in) between the walking surface and the adjacent surface, or
 - (b) The adjacent surface within 1.2 m (3 ft 11 in) from the walking surface has a slope of more than 1 in 2.

OBJECTIVE

The areas adjacent to stairs, platforms, porches, walkways etc. where normally the walking surface is not more than 600 mm (23% in) to grade or adjacent surfaces and a slope not greater than 1 in 2 and doesn't extend 1.2 m (3 ft 11 in) are not permitted to have guards.

Refer to illustration below.



SIDE ELEVATION

FRONT ELEVATION

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