

WAC 296-307-25033 How must handrails and railings be constructed?

(1) A handrail must have a horizontal part mounted directly on a wall or partition by brackets attached to the lower side of the handrail. The brackets must be attached to ensure that there is a smooth surface along the top and both sides of the handrail. The handrail must be rounded or otherwise provide an adequate handhold for anyone grasping it to avoid falling. The ends of the handrail should be turned in to the supporting wall or arranged to prevent a projection hazard.

(2) Handrails must be a maximum of thirty-four inches high and at least thirty inches from the upper surface of the handrail to the surface of the tread in line with the face of the riser or to the surface of the ramp.

(3) The size of handrails must be:

(a) For hardwood, at least two inches in diameter.

(b) For metal pipe, at least 1-1/2 inches in diameter.

(4) Brackets must be spaced a maximum of eight feet apart.

(5) Handrail mounting must be strong enough to withstand a load of at least two hundred pounds applied in any direction at any point on the rail.

(6) All handrails and railings shall have a clearance of at least 1-1/2 inches between the handrail or railing and the wall or any other object.

[WSR 97-09-013, recodified as § 296-307-25033, filed 4/7/97, effective 4/7/97. Statutory Authority: RCW 49.17.040, [49.17.]050 and [49.17.]060. WSR 96-22-048, § 296-306A-25033, filed 10/31/96, effective 12/1/96.]