The City of Powell would like to remind contractors and residents that the patio projects involving the removal of any required landings, steps and handrails must be replaced with code compliant landings, steps and handrails. Steps with four or more risers shall require a handrail on at least one side. Landings are required on each side of each exterior door. These requirements are referenced in the 2013 Residential Code of Ohio (RCO) sections 311.3 and 311.7.7 and evolved as safety concerns for both the private and public welfare.

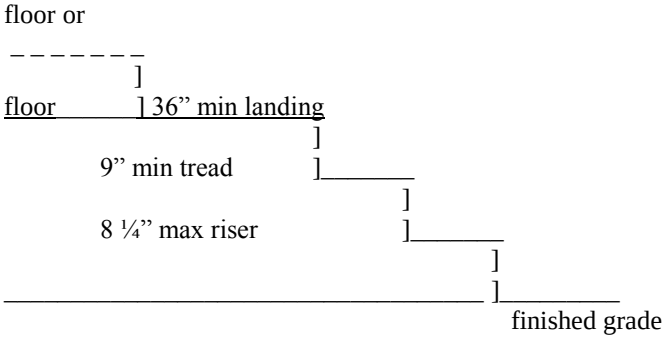
RCO 311.3 Floors and landings at exterior doors. There shall be a landing or floor on each side of each exterior door. The width of each landing shall not be less than the door served. Every landing shall have a minimum dimension of 36 inches measured in the direction of travel. Exterior landings shall be permitted to have a slope not to exceed ¼ unit vertical in 12 units horizontal (2-percent).

RCO 311.7.4.3 Stairways with solid riser. Nosing minimum ¾" – 1 ¼"

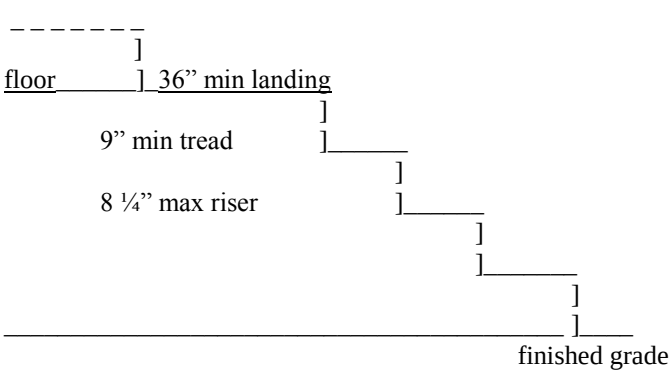
RCO 311.7.7 Handrails. Handrails shall be provided on at least one side of each continuous run of treads or flight with four or more risers.

Note: Open sides of stairs with a total rise of 30" or more require guardrails per RCO 312.1

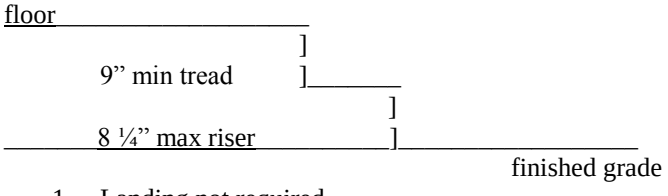
Examples:



1. Landing required – RCO 311.3
2. Handrail not required



1. Landing required – RCO 311.3
2. Handrail required – RCO 311.7.7



1. Landing not required
2. Handrail not required