

IRC Code Handout

IRC Section R311.7.4: Treads & Risers

PDS

Department Application

#437

Treads & Risers

R311.7.4.1 Riser Height

R311.7.4.2 Tread Depth

Treads & Risers. The maximum riser height shall be 7¾ inches (196 mm) and the minimum tread depth shall be 10 inches (254 mm). The riser height shall be measured vertically between leading edges of the adjacent treads. The tread depth shall be measured horizontally between the vertical planes of the foremost projection of adjacent treads and at a right angle to the tread's leading edge. Treads with a depth less than 11" are required to have a minimum nosing of ¾" and a maximum nosing of 1¼".

The walking surface of treads and landings of a stairway shall be sloped no steeper than one unit vertical in 48 units horizontal (2-percent slope). The greatest riser height within any flight of stairs shall not exceed the smallest by more than ¾-inch (9.5 mm). The greatest tread depth within any flight of stairs shall not exceed the smallest by more than ¾-inch (9.5 mm).

For further information on stairways and handrails, visit the Stairway Manufacturer's Association (SMA) website at www.stairways.org.

Stairway Example

