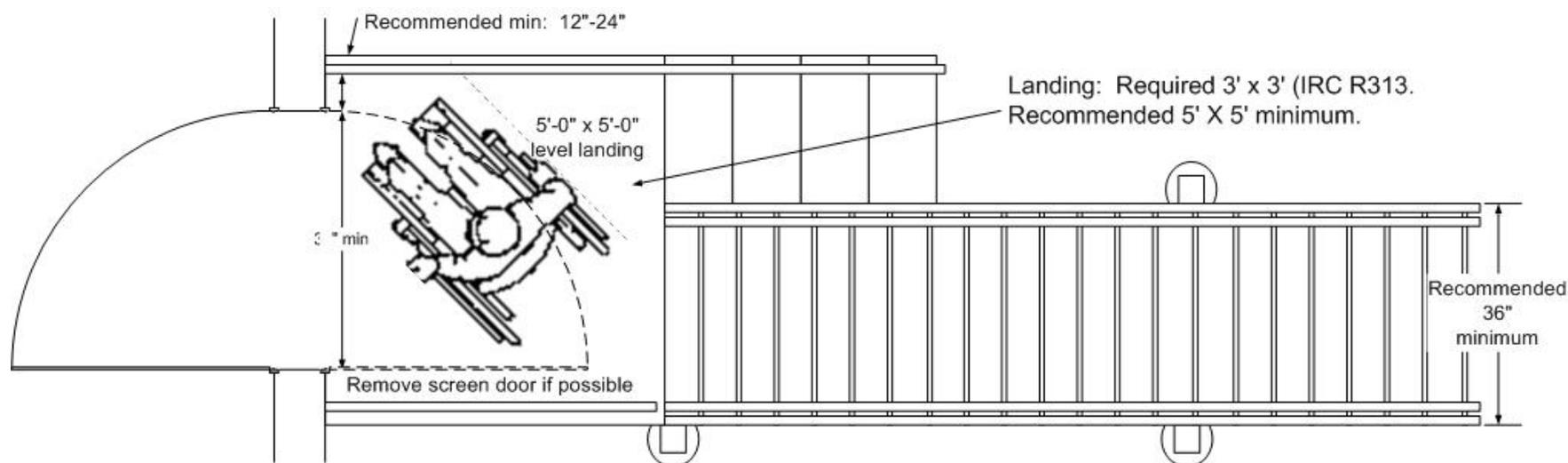


## RESIDENTIAL EXTERIOR RAMPS – DESIGN RECOMMENDATIONS

For 1 & 2 Family Homes / Dwellings

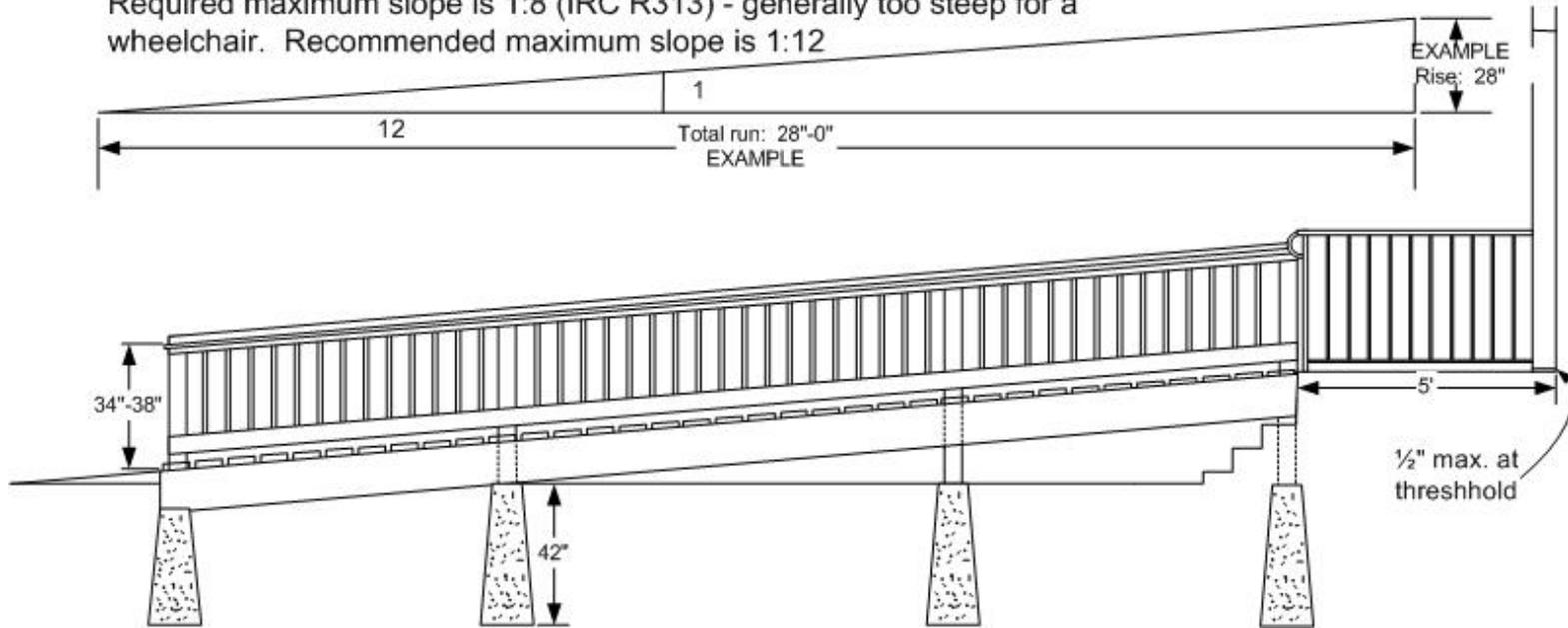
Revised October 2005

- Design considerations should reflect user needs and site conditions
- Intermediate landings may be necessary if ramp is of considerable length or if direction of ramp changes



The surface of the rampway should provide a non-slip surface. Treated lumber or wood of natural resistance to decay, such as cedar or redwood, is recommended for exterior use. 2 x 6 boards with gaps (1/4 inch) are recommended. Plywood is not recommended, as it does not provide drainage. Non-slip strips of adhesive are not recommended, as they trap moisture in the spring and fall, becoming ice strips under freezing conditions.

Required maximum slope is 1:8 (IRC R313) - generally too steep for a wheelchair. Recommended maximum slope is 1:12

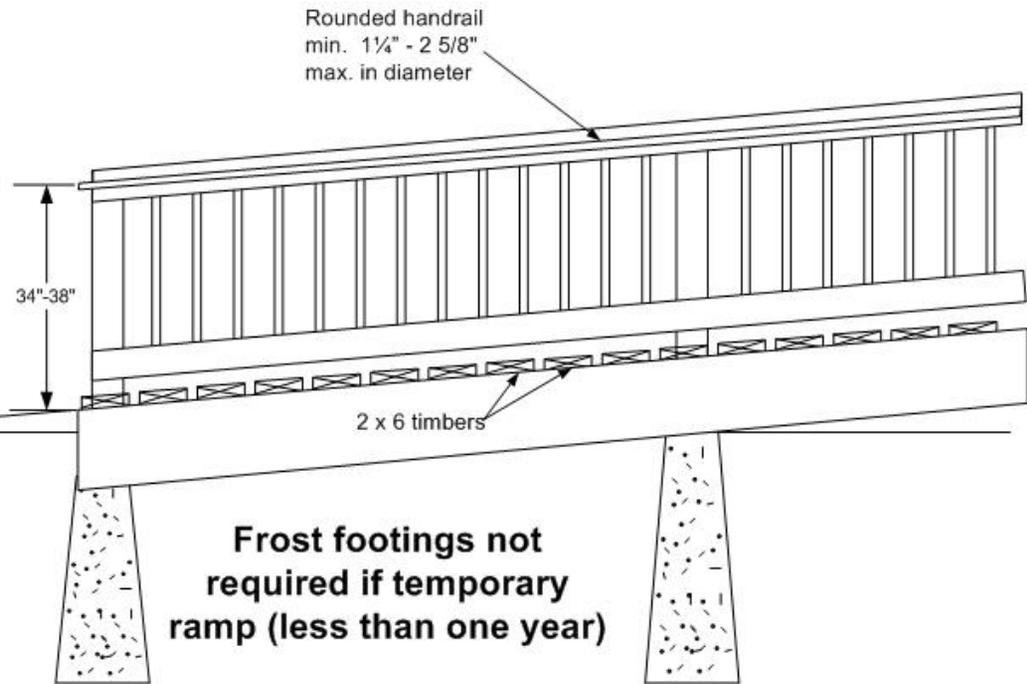


When the ramp or landing floor surface is more than 30" above grade, a 36" high guard with intermediate rails (or an ornamental pattern) such that a 4" sphere cannot pass through is required (IRC R316).

Handrails: Handrail on one side required if slope is steeper than 1:12 (IRC R313). Handrails on both sides recommended if slope is steeper than 1:15. Design should be easy to grasp - a rounded design minimum 1 1/4" - 2 5/8" maximum in diameter (IRC R315)

A bumper guard is recommended, 2" above the surface and at fixed height of wheelchair footrests.

A separate piece is recommended at bottom to provide smooth transition to grade.



**Frost footings not required if temporary ramp (less than one year)**