

Ramps

A guide to the building code requirements for commercial barrier-free ramps



General notes

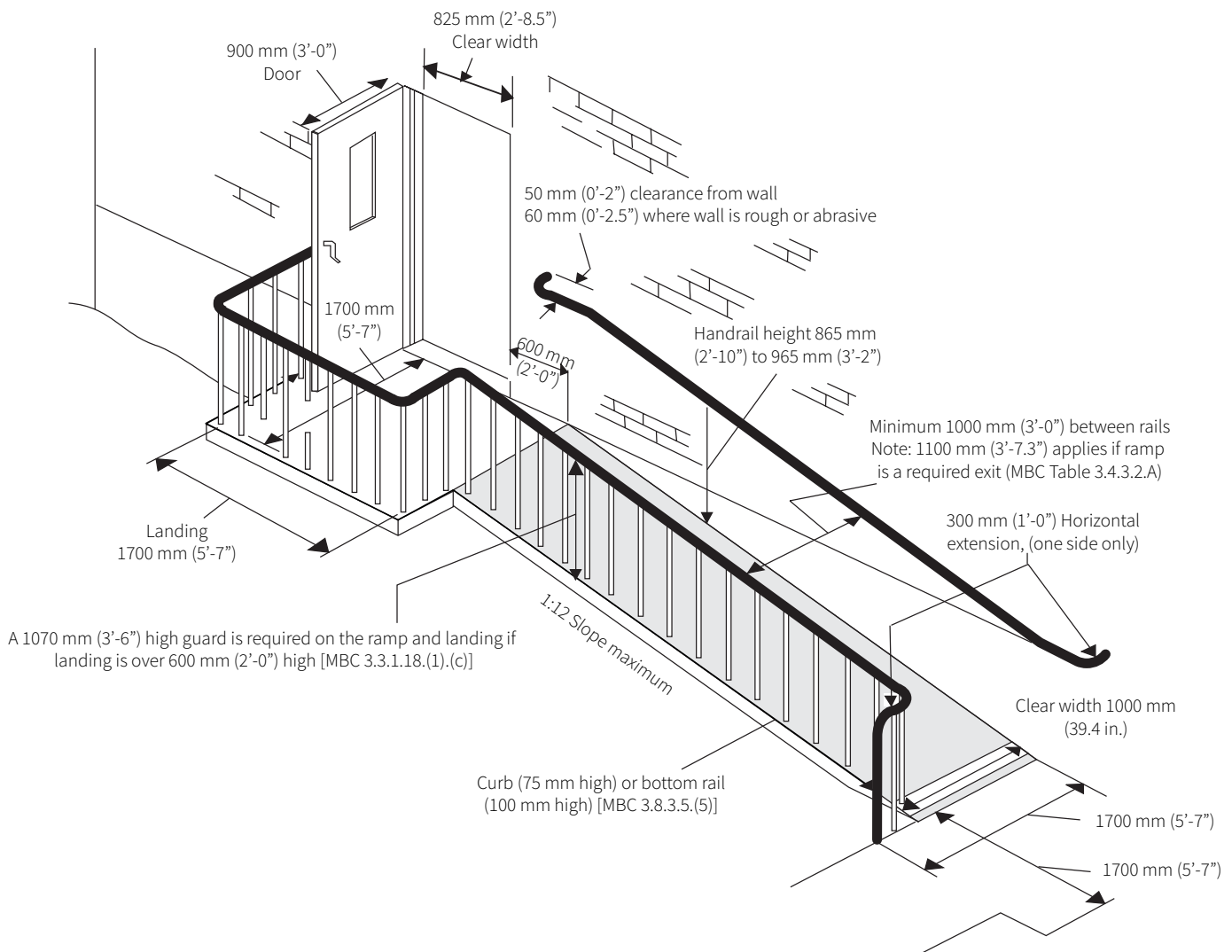
1. Barrier-free ramps for commercial or multi-unit residential buildings require Development and Building Permits.
2. A Development Permit establishes land use and confirms the structure is located on the property in accordance with the Zoning Bylaw and other departments' requirements. A Building Permit review confirms the structure meets Code. Building Permits must align with prior Development Permit approvals.
3. *Ramp* means a path of travel having a slope steeper than 1 in 20.
4. A *ramp* located in a *barrier free path* of travel shall have a uniform slope along its length not more than 1 in 12 [MBC 3.8.3.5.(1)] (A ramp with a 1 in 12 slope means that for each one-inch rise of the ramp, one foot of ramp length is required. Therefore, a ramp with a rise of 300 mm (1'-0") would have to be 3.65 m (12'-0") long [MBC 3.4.6.7.(1)]).
5. A *ramp* shall have a clear width not less than 1000mm (39.4").
6. The surface of the *ramp* must have a finish that is slip resistant (MBC 3.4.6.1).

7. A *ramp* must have a landing not less than 1.7 m x 1.7 m (5'-7" X 5'-7") at doorways [MBC 3.8.3.5.(1).(c)] [A-3.8.3.5.(1).(c)].
8. A *ramp* must have a landing not less than 1.35 m x 1 m* (3'-7" X 3'-3") at intervals not more than 9 m (29'-6") along its length and where there is a change in direction [MBC 3.8.3.5.(1).(d)].
9. Handrails are required on both sides of *ramp* and, except where interrupted by doorways, be continuous throughout length of ramp, including landings, and have a height** of between 865mm (34") and 965mm (38") [MBC 3.8.3.5.(1).(e)].
10. All ramp framing including handrails, guardrails, and foundations shall be designed in accordance with applicable codes by a Manitoba engineer.
11. If piles are to be used, view bulletin [2022-001-S Helical, Augured and Screw Piles in Commercial Applications](http://winnipeg.ca/ppd/InfoCentre/InformationBulletins.stm) on the information bulletins webpage: winnipeg.ca/ppd/InfoCentre/InformationBulletins.stm
12. A geotechnical report is required for Part 3 buildings, and is required for foundation designs which fall outside the Part 9 prescriptive requirements.
13. Ramps and landings not at grade or adjacent to a wall shall have edge protection of:
 - a. A curb not less than 75mm (3") high or,
 - b. A raised barrier or bottom rail not more than 100mm (4") from the ramp or landing surface [MBC 3.8.3.5.(5)].
12. Ramp design can be wholly based on the standard CSA B651 Section 5.3. and 5.5.

*Width for Exit and Group B occupancies found in MBC Tables 3.4.3.2.-A and B.

**Handrail height for an Exit ramp is allowed to be 1070mm (42") (maximum) [MBC 3.4.6.5.(7)], which matches guard height [MBC 3.4.6.6.(2)].

Accessible entrance showing minimum dimensions for a barrier-free ramp (MBC 2024)



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Every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of information contained in this publication. However, in the event of a discrepancy between this publication and the governing City of Winnipeg By-law, the bylaw will take precedence.