

Handrails Version 1-2

Definition: A structure designed to be grasped to provide a user with stability, support, and assisting in descending or ascending stairs.

At least one handrail is required for each continuous run of stairs with four or more risers.
Two handrails are required for ramps if their length is greater than 72 inches.

Name bannister, railing

Variants:

Most metal, wood

Common

Materials:

Most rail, baluster, brackets, anchor

Common

Components:

Location & Inspection of Handrails

Tools for Location & Inspection	Useful: Required:	n/a length measuring device
Common Locations:	Unit/Inside: Outside:	stairs, hallways, ramps, elevators stairwells, ramps, elevators
Possible Deficiencies:	Deficiency 1: Deficiency 2:	Handrails are missing where required Handrails are not secure

Deficiency 2: Handrails not secure

Rationales: Safety, Indirect: If a handrail is not secure, this may increase the probability of falls that may lead to injury.

Routine Maintenance, Direct: It is reasonable to expect that handrails that are not secure would be identified through routine daily observations and facilities management would prioritize work orders to fix this deficiency

Health and Safety Determination: This is a standard health and safety issue requiring a repair, correction, or act of abatement within 30 days.

How to Inspect: Action: Grab the handrail and rapidly push and pull the handrail with moderate force. Perform this action at both ends and the middle of the handrail. If there is no movement, disregard this deficiency. If there is movement, continue.

Inspection Process & Procedure: Ensure handrails are firmly attached with no movement at anchor points to support the weight of persons using the stairs.

Record deficiency if: There is movement of the handrail at its anchor points.

Handrail, Version 1-2 (23 Dec 2019)

Summary of Changes (from Version 1-1)

- The **Rationales** and the **Health and Safety Determinations** have been updated, following in-house review and public comment.