



Handrail Grip Size Requirements as Outlined In the 2018 International Residential Code (IRC)

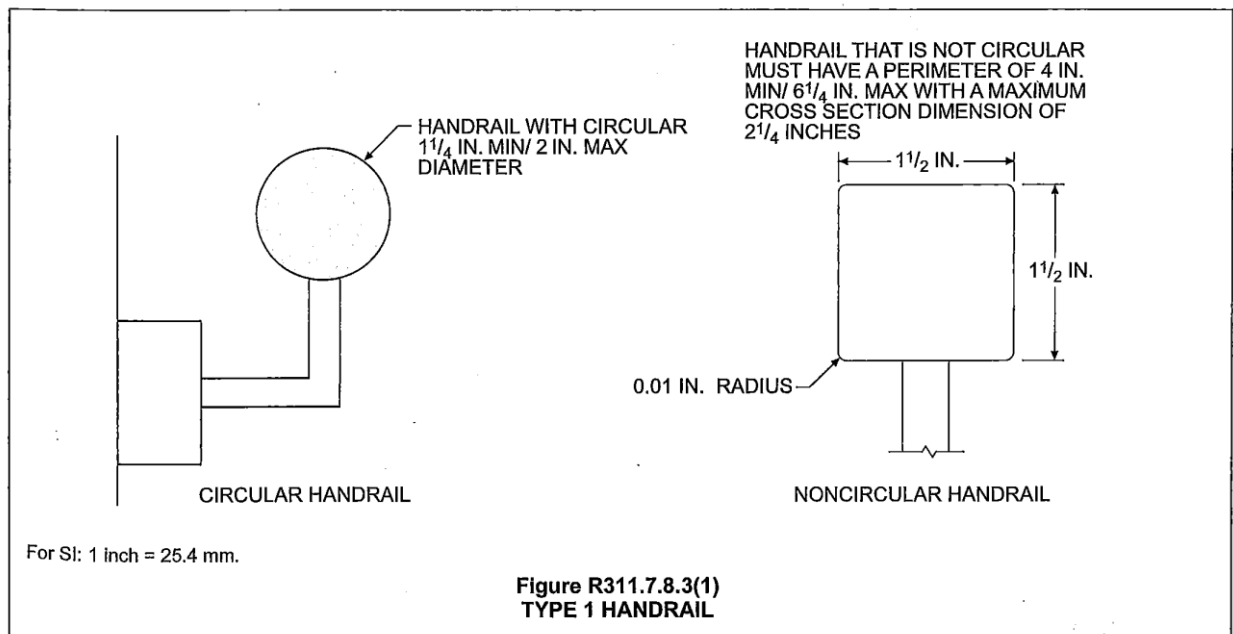
R311.7.8.4 Continuity

Handrails shall be continuous for the full length of the flight, from a point directly above the top riser of the flight to a point directly above the lowest riser. Handrails ends shall be returned or shall terminate in the newel posts of safety terminals.

R311.7.8.3 Handrail Grip Size

All required handrails shall be of one of the following types or provide equivalent graspability.

(Type I) Handrails with a circular cross section shall have an outside diameter of at least 1 ¼ inches and not greater than 2 inches. If the handrail is not circular it shall have a perimeter dimension of at least 4 inches and not greater than 6 ¼ inches with a maximum cross section dimension of 2 ¼ inches.



(Type II) Handrails with a perimeter greater than $6\frac{1}{4}$ inches shall provide a graspable finger recess area on both sides of the profile. The finger recess shall begin within a distance of $\frac{3}{4}$ inch measured vertically from the tallest portion of the profile and achieve a depth of at least $\frac{5}{16}$ inch within $\frac{7}{8}$ inch below the widest portion of the profile. This required depth shall continue for at least $\frac{3}{8}$ inch to a level that is not less than $1\frac{3}{4}$ inches below the tallest portion of the profile. The minimum width of the handrail above the recess shall be $1\frac{1}{4}$ inches to a maximum of $2\frac{3}{4}$ inches. Edges shall have a minimum radius of 0.01 inches.

