# Guardrails do NOT qualify as handrails.

**handrail dimensions and**

**See handrail handout for**

**requirements.**

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## Positive

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**R312 .1 Guards.**

*Guards* shall be provided in accordance with Sections R312 .1.1 through R31 2.1.4.

# R3 12 .1.1 Where required .

*Guards* shall be provided for those portions of open-sided walking surfaces, including floors, stairs, *ramps* and landings that are located more than 30 inches (762 mm) measured vertically to the floor or *grade* below at any point within 36 inches (914 mm) horizontally to the edge of the open side. Insect screening shall not be considered as a *guard.*

# R3 12 .1.2 Height.

Required *guards* at open-sided walking surfaces, including stairs, porches, balconies or landings , shall be not l ess than 36 inches (914 mm) in height as measured vertically above the adjacent **walking** surface or the line connecting the *nosings.*

## Exceptions:

1. *Guards* on the open sides of *stairs* shall have a height of not less than 34 inches (864 mm) measured vertically from a line connect ing the *nosings.*
2. Where the top of the *guard* serves as a *handrail* on the open sides of stairs, the top of the *guard* shall be not less than 34 inches (864 **mm)** and no t more than 38 inches (965 mm) as measured vertically from a line connecting the *nosings.*

**C:\handout\06 example of stair detail.doc**