

stair landing at grade surface (8560)

IRC: R311.7.7, R311.7.7.1 (New)

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2021 International Residential Code

Revise as follows:

R311.7.7 Stairway walking surface. The walking surface of treads and landings of *stairways* shall be sloped not steeper than 1 unit vertical in 48 units horizontal (2-percent slope).

Exception: Where the surface of a landing is required elsewhere in the code to drain surface water, the walking surface of the landing shall be sloped not steeper than 1 unit vertical in 20 units horizontal (5-percent slope) in the direction of travel.

Add new text as follows:

R311.7.7.1 Landings at grade. Stairway landings located at grade shall be solid and stable.

Reason: This proposal is to add language for what type of surface a stair landing at grade needs to be. Currently the IRC would allow any surface which would include grass or dirt and only says the maximum slope. Grass will not always be there if homeowner does not take care of it and dirt turns into mud when wet.

Landings are a very important component of the stairway and surface needs to be solid and stable to allow a safe area when exiting the flight of stairs.

Cost Impact: The code change proposal will increase the cost of construction

This code change will increase construction in jurisdictions that now allow grass or dirt for stair landings at grade