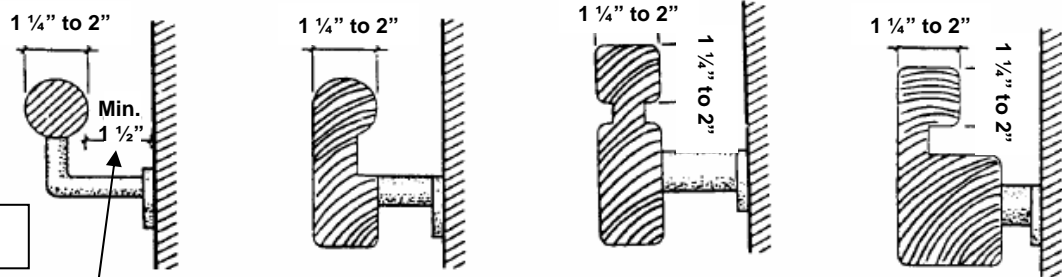**This handout covers both Residential & Non-residential applications. See Note below for OBC specifics.**

Residential Code of Ohio RCO)"311.7.7.3 Handrail grip size. All required handrails shall be of one of the following types or provide equivalent graspability."

1. Type I. Circular :   1 1/4" to 2" in diameter.
Non-circular: 4" to 6 ¼" around graspable part with a maximum graspable diameter of 2 ¼"

1 ¼" to 2"   Min. 1 ½"   1 ¼" to 2"   1 ¼" to 2"   1 ½" to 2"   1 ¼" to 2"   1 ½" to 2"
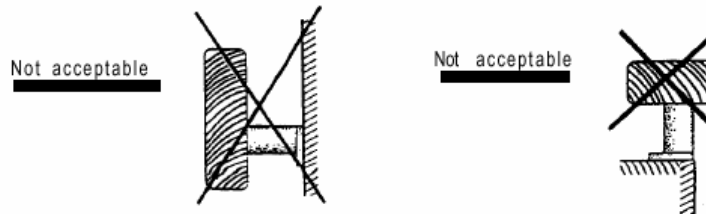
Type I Handrails

(Accessibility Guidelines Exactly 1 ½")

2. Type II. If over 6 ¼" around graspable portion, requires a finger recess area on both sides of the handrail. Recess starts within ¾" from the top of the handrail, at least 5/16" deep within 7/8" of the widest portion. Recess at least 3/8" high and extends to at least 1 ¾" from the top of the handrail. Width above recess must be 1 ¼" to 2 ¾". Minimum edge radius of 0.01". [Accessibilty Guideline requires minimum 1 1/4" and maximum 2 1/4" dimensions on handrails.]

Type II Handrails

Examples of Unacceptable Handrails

Not acceptable   Not acceptable

Additional handrail code information

RCO - 311.7.7.1 Height. Handrail height, measured vertically from the sloped plane adjoining the tread nosing, or finish surface of ramp slope, shall be not less than 34" and not more than 38".

RCO 311.7.7.2 Continuity. Continuous for the full length of the flight, from a point directly above the top riser of the flight to a point directly above lowest riser of the flight. Handrail ends shall be returned or shall terminate in newel posts or safety terminals. Handrails adjacent to a wall shall have a space of not less than 1 ½" between the wall and the handrails. [ADA requires _exactly_ 1 1/2" from wall.] See OBC 1012.4 for Continuity requirements.

OBC 1012.6 Extensions. At Top: Level for 12" at 34" to 38" high At Bottom: Extend at its angle for 1 tread width beyond last riser. [Accessibility Guidelines - same except if stair is NOT connected to a ramp or elevator, bottom handrail must be level for 12" beyond the one tread width extension.]

Note: Ohio Building Code (for non-residential applications) allows Type 1 Handrails as described above and requires minimum edge radius of 0.01".