

The ADA Requirements for Entrance Flooring

Overview

The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is a federal civil rights law that prohibits discrimination against people with disabilities and opens doors for full participation in all aspects of everyday life. The act requires businesses to remove architectural barriers in existing buildings and make sure that newly built or altered facilities are constructed to be accessible to individuals with disabilities. Grandfather provisions often found in local building codes do not exempt businesses from the law's obligations.

DID YOU KNOW?

More than
50 million
Americans
(19% of population)
have disabilities.

Entrance flooring compliance issues

SLIP RESISTANCE

The ADA recommends a value of 0.60 for the static coefficient of friction (SCOF), which is a certified accepted measurement standard for slip resistance of flat surfaces.

TRIPPING HAZARD

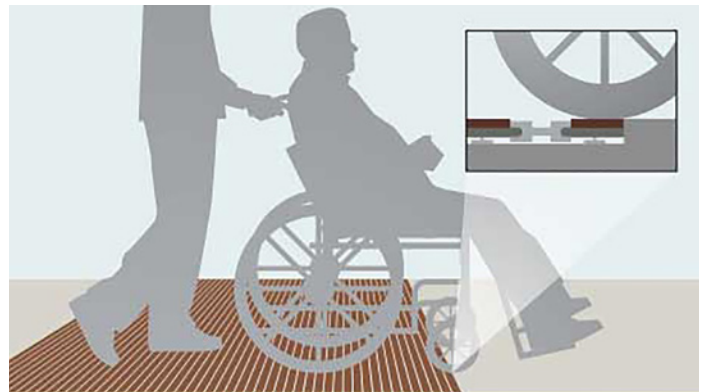
Height transitions cannot be more than 1/4" above the finished floor. This ensures that people will be able to move easily and not trip or get stuck (if in a wheelchair) over the protruding edge.

OPENINGS FOR DEBRIS AND WATER

Openings in floor or ground surfaces cannot allow passages of a sphere more than 1/2" (13mm) in diameter, such as high heels, canes, or walkers. For exceptions, see the [2010 ADA Standards for Accessible Design document](#). Also, elongated openings must be placed so that the long dimension is perpendicular to the dominant direction of travel.



If the entrance flooring is surface mounted, a tapered edge frame is required to ensure a smooth transition.



If the entrance flooring is recessed, it should remain flush with the surrounding floor.

Sources:
<http://www.ada.gov>
<http://www.interiorsandsources.com/article-details/articleid/16571/title/stranger-than-friction.aspx>
<https://www.census.gov/newsroom/releases/archives/miscellaneous/cb12-134.html>

Ensure ADA requirements are met—

Call us: 800.233.8493