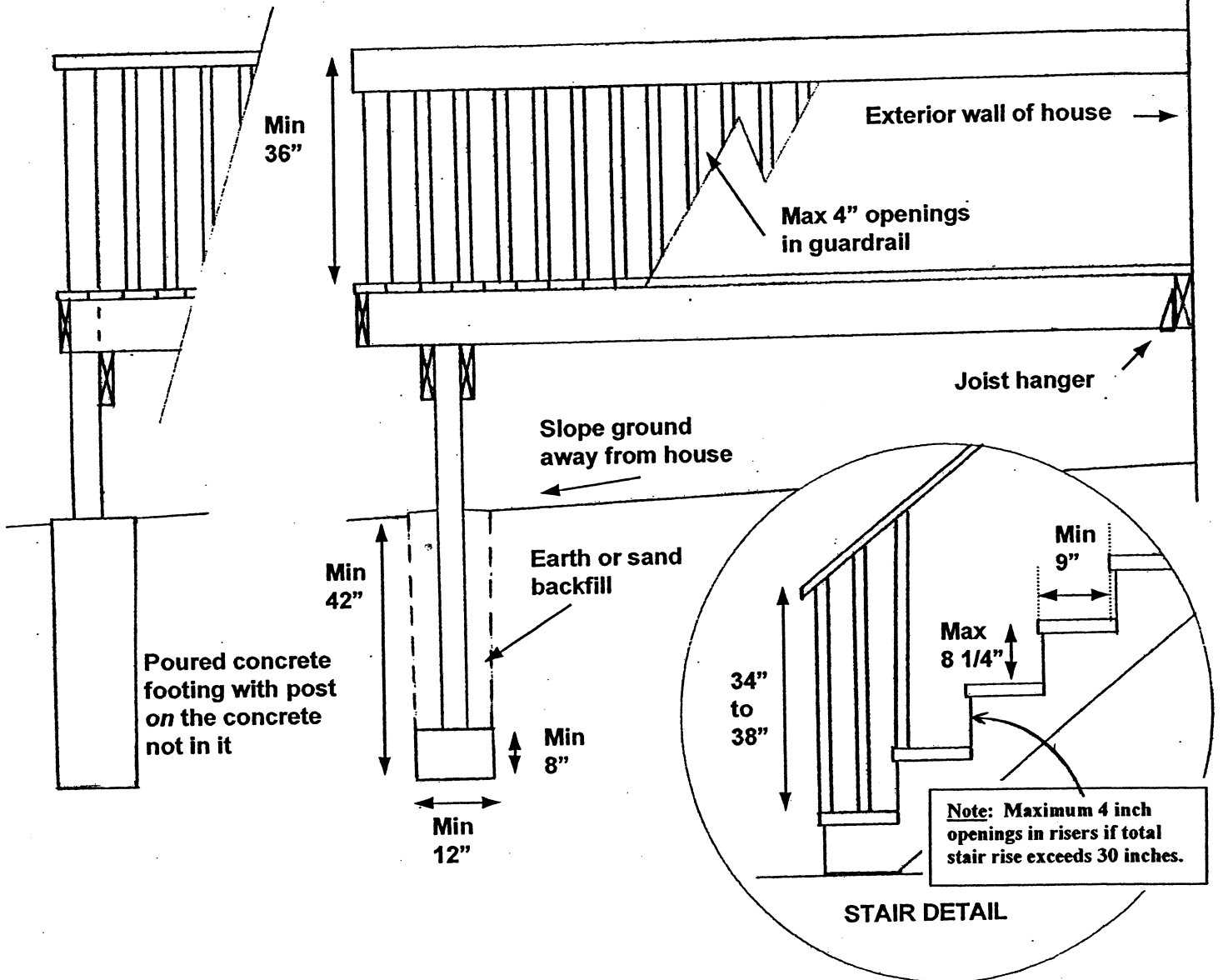


RESIDENTIAL TREATED WOOD DECKS

COURTESY OF CITY OF LANSING BUILDING SAFETY OFFICE



- Guardrails must be installed if the deck or floor is 30 inches or more above grade. Architectural design and style of guardrail cannot result in a ladder effect which could allow it to be climbed.
- Stairs with two or more treads require at least one handrail. Handrails must be between 34 inches and 38 inches above nose of treads. Handrails must be grippable and have a cross-section of 1 1/4 to 2 5/8 inches.
- Stair treads must have a minimum run of 9 inches and a maximum rise of 8 1/4 inches. Neither riser heights nor tread depths can vary within the same flight of stairs more than 3/8's of an inch.
- All materials used for posts, joists, beams, and decking shall be of approved wood of natural resistance to decay or approved treated wood. If treated wood is used, below grade foundation posts shall be treated to minimum .40; joists, beams, and decking treated to minimum .25.

BEAM CHART

Residential Decks and Porches

COURTESY OF CITY OF LANSING
BUILDING SAFETY OFFICE

POST SPACING (feet O.C.)	JOIST SPANS* (in feet)	MINIMUM REQUIRED BEAM SIZE	
		SINGLE	DOUBLE
4	4	2 x 4	2 x 4
	6	2 x 6	2 x 4
	8	2 x 6	2 x 4
	10	2 x 6	2 x 6
	12	2 x 6	2 x 6
	14	2 x 8	2 x 6
	16	2 x 8	2 x 6
6	4	2 x 6	2 x 4
	6	2 x 8	2 x 6
	8	2 x 8	2 x 6
	10	2 x 10	2 x 6
	12	2 x 10	2 x 8
	14	2 x 10	2 x 8
	16	2 x 10	2 x 8
8	4	2 x 8	2 x 6
	6	2 x 10	2 x 6
	8	2 x 10	2 x 8
	10	2 x 12	2 x 8
	12	2 x 12	2 x 10
	14	--	2 x 10
	16	--	2 x 10
10	4	2 x 10	2 x 6
	6	2 x 12	2 x 8
	8	2 x 12	2 x 10
	10	--	2 x 10
	12	--	2 x 12
	14	--	2 x 12
	16	--	2 x 12
12	4	2 x 12	2 x 8
	6	--	2 x 10
	8	--	2 x 12
	10	--	2 x 12
	12	--	--
	14	--	--
	16	--	--

* Spans shown are full joist lengths; beams are sized to support half of joist spans and assume the other half will be supported at wall of building