

Useful Calculations

Chapter 1

Total Rise

$$\begin{array}{r}
 \text{_____} \quad \text{Total distance from rough floor to rough floor} \\
 \text{_____} \quad + \text{ Thickness of upper finished floor} \\
 \text{_____} \quad - \text{ Thickness of lower finished floor} \\
 \hline
 \text{_____} \quad = \text{ Thickness rise (Finished floor to floor)}
 \end{array}$$

Number of Risers

$$\begin{array}{r}
 \text{_____} \quad \text{Total rise (Finished floor to floor)} \\
 \text{_____} \quad + \text{ Maximum unit rise} \\
 \hline
 \text{_____} \quad = \text{ Number of risers} \\
 \text{(Rounded to the next highest whole number)}
 \end{array}$$

Unit Rise

$$\begin{array}{r}
 \text{_____} \quad \text{Total rise (Finished floor to floor)} \\
 \text{_____} \quad \div \text{ Number of risers} \\
 \hline
 \text{_____} \quad = \text{ Unit rise}
 \end{array}$$

Number of Treads

_____ Number of risers

_____ - One

_____ = Number of treads

Minimum Total Run

_____ Number of treads

_____ (x) Maximum unit run

_____ = Maximum total run

Unit Run

_____ Desired total run

_____ ÷ Number of treads

_____ = Unit Run

Calculations

Chapter 2

Stringer Lengths - Pythagorean theorem

$$(\text{Run})^2 + (\text{Rise})^2 = (\text{Rake})^2$$

$$(\text{---})^2 + (\text{---})^2 = (\text{---})^2$$

$$(\text{Rake})^2 = \text{---}$$

$$(\text{---})^2 = \text{---}$$

$$\text{---} \div 12" = \text{---}$$

- or the length of the stringer. Round this to the next highest "even" number. The rounded number will give you the necessary 2 x 12" length you will need.

Calculating First Riser Heights

_____ First unit rise

_____ - Tread thickness

_____ + Finished floor thickness

_____ = First Riser height

Checking the Fit of the Stringer

_____ Unit Rise Height

_____ + Tread thickness

_____ = Finished floor thickness

_____ = Distance of the stringer below rough cut

Calculations

Chapter 3

Starting Newel Height

$$\begin{array}{r}
 \text{_____} \quad \text{Distance from the bottom of the fitting to the tread} \\
 \text{_____} \quad + \text{Desired rail height} \\
 \text{_____} \quad - \text{Depth of the handrail} \\
 \hline
 \text{_____} \quad = \text{Starting newel height}
 \end{array}$$

Newel Height

$$\begin{array}{r}
 \text{_____} \quad \text{Desired rail height} \\
 \text{_____} \quad - \text{Rail thickness} \\
 \hline
 \text{_____} \quad = \text{Newel height}
 \end{array}$$

Calculations

Chapter 4

Starting Newel Height

$$\begin{array}{r}
 \text{_____} \quad \text{Distance from the bottom of the fitting to the tread} \\
 \text{_____} \quad + \text{ Desired rail height} \\
 \text{_____} \quad - \text{ Depth of the handrail} \\
 \hline
 \text{_____} \quad = \text{ Starting newel height}
 \end{array}$$

Rake-to-Rake Newel Length

$$\begin{array}{r}
 \text{_____} \quad \text{Reveal} \\
 \text{_____} \quad + \text{ Rail Height} \\
 \text{_____} \quad + \text{ Slope difference} \\
 \text{_____} \quad + \text{ Tread height} \\
 \hline
 \text{_____} \quad = \text{ Rake-to-rake newel length (TOP MOUNT SYSTEM)} \\
 \text{_____} \quad + \text{ Tale or drop down length} \\
 \text{_____} \quad \text{Rake-to-rake newel length (HALF LAP SYSTEM)}
 \end{array}$$

Rake-to-Balcony Newel Length

$$\begin{aligned}
 & \text{_____} \quad \text{Reveal} \\
 & \text{_____} \quad + \text{ Rail Height} \\
 & \text{_____} \quad + \text{ Tread height} \\
 & \text{-----} \\
 & \text{_____} \quad = \text{ Newel Length (TOP MOUNT SYSTEM)} \\
 & \text{_____} \quad + \text{ Tale or drop down length} \\
 & \text{_____} \quad \text{Newel length (HALF LAP SYSTEM)}
 \end{aligned}$$

Balcony Newel Length

$$\begin{aligned}
 & \text{_____} \quad \text{Reveal} \\
 & \text{_____} \quad + \text{ Rail Height} \\
 & \text{_____} \quad + \text{ Thickness of the finished floor} \\
 & \text{-----} \\
 & \text{_____} \quad = \text{ Newel Length (TOP MOUNT SYSTEM)} \\
 & \text{_____} \quad + \text{ Tale or drop down length} \\
 & \text{_____} \quad \text{Newel length (HALF LAP SYSTEM)}
 \end{aligned}$$

Calculations

Chapter 5

Baluster Spacing (Balcony or Landing)

_____ Distance

_____ ÷ Maximum baluster spacing + Thickness of narrowest part of baluster

_____ Round to the nearest whole number

_____ = Minimum number of baluster spacing