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Stair Builders Handbook

By T. W. LOVE



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Chapter 1

STAIRWAY DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION

This book has all the information necessary to design and construct the right frame staircase for any job. The tables in this handbook give precise dimensions for treads and risers for every rise between 3 feet and 12 feet and for every riser height from 6 inches to 8¼ inches. These tables will be invaluable in selecting a riser height and tread width that meet job requirements for total rise and total run, angle of incline, head room and length of carriage. The craftsman will also find here complete information on quantity of materials and settings for the steel square. Every stairway in

this handbook uses the most widely accepted relation between riser and tread: Riser height plus tread width equals 17½ inches.

Chapter 2 explains the basic principles of stair design and construction and Chapter 3 shows how stairs are actually constructed. Chapter 4 covers layout and fitting of newel posts and hand rails. Chapter 5 defines the terms used in the tables and shows how the tables are used in practice.

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FLOOR TO FLOOR RISE	3'0"	3'0"	3' $\frac{1}{8}$ "	3' $\frac{1}{8}$ "	3' $\frac{1}{2}$ "	3' $\frac{1}{2}$ "	3' $\frac{3}{8}$ "	3' $\frac{3}{8}$ "	3' $\frac{1}{2}$ "	3' $\frac{1}{2}$ "	
NUMBER OF RISERS	5	6	5	6	5	6	5	6	5	6	
HEIGHT OF EACH RISER	7 $\frac{3}{16}$ "	6"	7 $\frac{1}{4}$ "	6"	7 $\frac{1}{4}$ "	6 $\frac{1}{16}$ "	7 $\frac{1}{4}$ "	6 $\frac{1}{16}$ "	7 $\frac{5}{16}$ "	6 $\frac{1}{16}$ "	
TOTAL HEIGHT OF RISERS	2'11 $\frac{5}{16}$ "	3'	3' $\frac{1}{4}$ "	3'	3' $\frac{1}{2}$ "	3' $\frac{3}{8}$ "	3' $\frac{1}{4}$ "	3' $\frac{3}{8}$ "	3' $\frac{2}{16}$ "	3' $\frac{3}{8}$ "	
RISERS OVERAGE (+) OR UNDERAGE (-)	- $\frac{1}{16}$ "	0	+ $\frac{1}{8}$ "	- $\frac{1}{8}$ "	0	+ $\frac{1}{8}$ "	- $\frac{1}{8}$ "	0	+ $\frac{1}{16}$ "	- $\frac{1}{8}$ "	
NUMBER OF TREADS	4	5	4	5	4	5	4	5	4	5	
WIDTH OF EACH TREAD	10 $\frac{5}{16}$ "	11 $\frac{1}{2}$ "	10 $\frac{1}{4}$ "	11 $\frac{1}{2}$ "	10 $\frac{1}{2}$ "	11 $\frac{7}{16}$ "	10 $\frac{1}{2}$ "	11 $\frac{7}{16}$ "	10 $\frac{3}{8}$ "	11 $\frac{7}{16}$ "	
TOTAL RUN OF STAIRWAY	3'5 $\frac{1}{4}$ "	4'9 $\frac{1}{2}$ "	3'5"	4'9 $\frac{1}{2}$ "	3'5"	4'9 $\frac{3}{16}$ "	3'5"	4'9 $\frac{3}{16}$ "	3'4 $\frac{3}{4}$ "	4'9 $\frac{3}{16}$ "	
MAXIMUM RUN WITH 6'-8" HEADROOM	1'9 $\frac{7}{8}$ "	1'11"	1'8 $\frac{1}{2}$ "	1'11"	1'8 $\frac{1}{2}$ "	1'10 $\frac{7}{8}$ "	1'8 $\frac{1}{2}$ "	1'10 $\frac{7}{8}$ "	1'8 $\frac{3}{8}$ "	1'10 $\frac{7}{8}$ "	
ANGLE OF INCLINE	34°53'	27°33'	35°16'	27°33'	35°16'	27°56'	35°16'	27°56'	35°40'	27°56'	
LENGTH OF CARRIAGE	4'2 $\frac{2}{32}$ "	5'4 $\frac{3}{32}$ "	4'2 $\frac{7}{32}$ "	5'4 $\frac{3}{32}$ "	4'2 $\frac{7}{32}$ "	5'4 $\frac{2}{32}$ "	4'2 $\frac{7}{32}$ "	5'4 $\frac{2}{32}$ "	4'2 $\frac{3}{32}$ "	5'4 $\frac{2}{32}$ "	
L. F. OF RISER PER INCH OF STAIRWAY WIDTH	.416	.5	.416	.5	.416	.5	.416	.5	.416	.5	
L. F. OF TREAD PER INCH OF STAIRWAY WIDTH	.333	.416	.333	.416	.333	.416	.333	.416	.333	.416	
FRAMING SQUARE SETTINGS FOR CARRIAGE CUTS	TONGUE	7 $\frac{3}{16}$ "	6"	7 $\frac{1}{4}$ "	6"	7 $\frac{1}{4}$ "	6 $\frac{1}{16}$ "	7 $\frac{1}{4}$ "	6 $\frac{1}{16}$ "	7 $\frac{5}{16}$ "	6 $\frac{1}{16}$ "
	BODY	10 $\frac{3}{16}$ "	11 $\frac{1}{2}$ "	10 $\frac{1}{4}$ "	11 $\frac{1}{2}$ "	10 $\frac{1}{4}$ "	11 $\frac{7}{16}$ "	10 $\frac{1}{4}$ "	11 $\frac{7}{16}$ "	10 $\frac{3}{8}$ "	11 $\frac{7}{16}$ "

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FLOOR TO FLOOR RISE	12'	12'	12'	12'	12'	
NUMBER OF RISERS	20	21	22	23	24	
HEIGHT OF EACH RISER	7 $\frac{3}{16}$ "	6 $\frac{7}{8}$ "	6 $\frac{3}{16}$ "	6 $\frac{1}{4}$ "	6"	
TOTAL HEIGHT OF RISERS	11'11 $\frac{3}{4}$ "	12' $\frac{3}{8}$ "	12' $\frac{3}{8}$ "	11'11 $\frac{3}{4}$ "	12'	
RISERS OVERAGE (+) OR UNDERAGE (-)	- $\frac{1}{4}$ "	+ $\frac{3}{8}$ "	+ $\frac{3}{8}$ "	- $\frac{1}{4}$ "	0	
NUMBER OF TREADS	19	20	21	22	23	
WIDTH OF EACH TREAD	10 $\frac{5}{16}$ "	10 $\frac{5}{8}$ "	10 $\frac{15}{16}$ "	11 $\frac{1}{4}$ "	11 $\frac{1}{2}$ "	
TOTAL RUN OF STAIRWAY	16'3 $\frac{5}{16}$ "	17'8 $\frac{1}{2}$ "	19'1 $\frac{1}{8}$ "	20'7 $\frac{1}{2}$ "	22' $\frac{1}{2}$ "	
WELL OPENING FOR 6'-8" HEADROOM	11'6 $\frac{3}{2}$ "	11'10 $\frac{3}{16}$ "	13'2 $\frac{7}{8}$ "	14'7 $\frac{1}{2}$ "	15'5 $\frac{1}{2}$ "	
ANGLE OF INCLINE	34°53'	32°54'	30°58'	29°3'	27°33'	
LENGTH OF CARRIAGE	19'10 $\frac{7}{16}$ "	21'1 $\frac{3}{4}$ "	22'3 $\frac{7}{8}$ "	23'7 $\frac{3}{8}$ "	24'10 $\frac{11}{16}$ "	
L. F. OF RISER PER INCH OF STAIRWAY WIDTH	1.666	1.75	1.833	1.916	2.0	
L. F. OF TREAD PER INCH OF STAIRWAY WIDTH	1.583	1.666	1.75	1.833	1.916	
FRAMING SQUARE SETTINGS FOR CARRIAGE CUTS	TONGUE	7 $\frac{3}{16}$ "	6 $\frac{7}{8}$ "	6 $\frac{3}{16}$ "	6 $\frac{1}{4}$ "	6"
	BODY	10 $\frac{5}{16}$ "	10 $\frac{5}{8}$ "	10 $\frac{15}{16}$ "	11 $\frac{1}{4}$ "	11 $\frac{1}{2}$ "

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