

The ADA Requirements for Entrance Flooring

Overview

- Passed in 1990, 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.
- Businesses must 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.

Tripping hazard

Height transitions cannot be more than 1/4 of an inch above the finished floor to ensure people can move across easily, particularly in a wheelchair, and not trip over the protruding edge.

Openings for debris and water

Openings in floor or ground surfaces cannot allow passage of a sphere more than 1/2 inch (13 mm) diameter, such as that of a high heel or cane/walker. 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**, there needs to be a tapered edge/frame to ensure a smooth transition.



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

Construction Specialties Entrance Flooring Systems have been the gold standard since 1969. As established industry experts, we know the rules and regulations for building safety. Our products are designed to be durable and code compliant while adding to the aesthetic value of a building.

Contact us for help with designing your entrance to ensure ADA requirements are met.

<http://csinc.bz/efs-ada-reqs>

800.233.8493

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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>

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