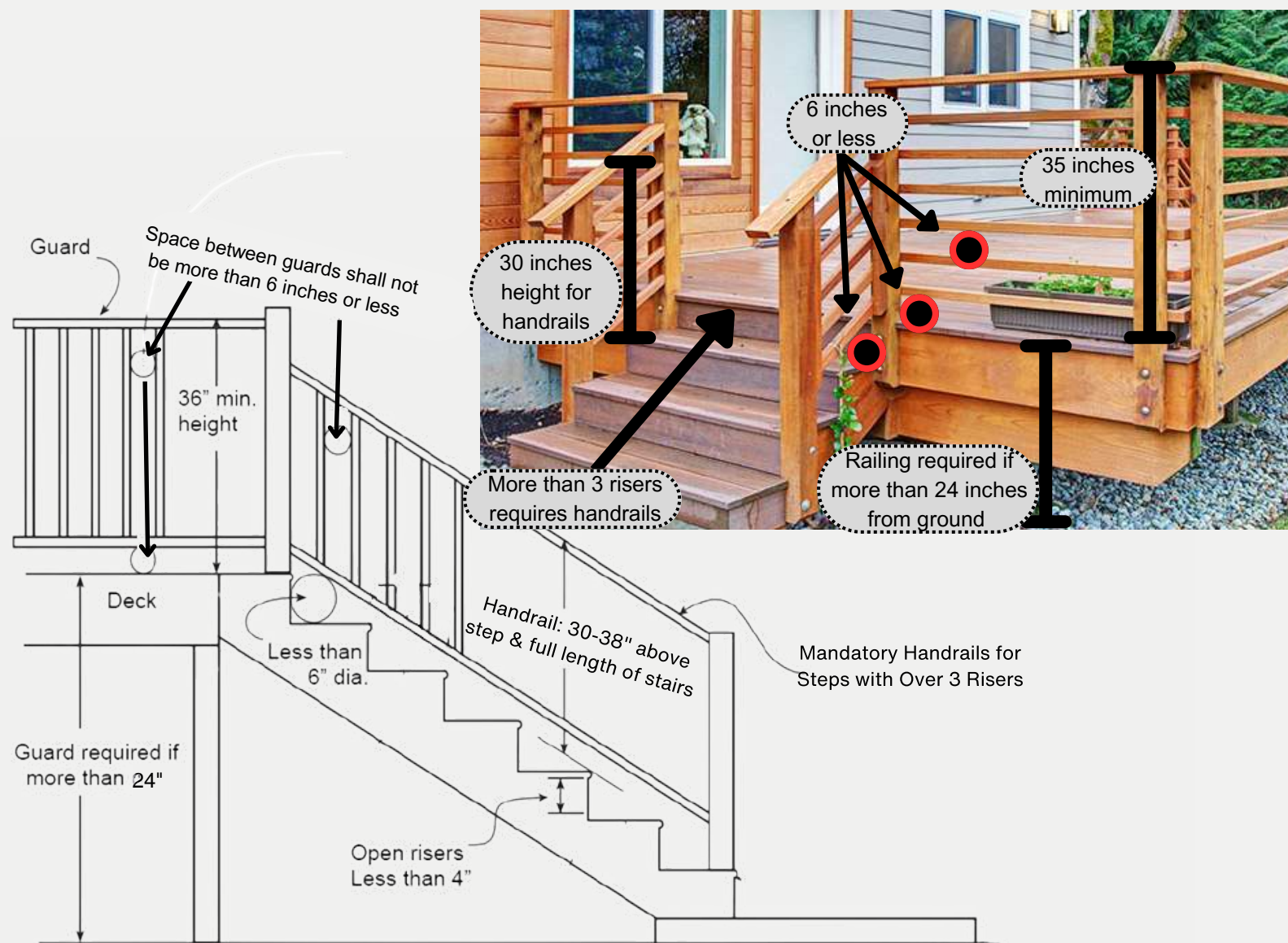


HANDRAILS, GUARDS, & STAIRS FACT SHEET



Handrails, Guards, & Stairs:

Handrails

- o Required on steps with more than 3 risers
- o Height requirement of 30"-38" above step & full length of flight of steps

Guards

- o Required on all open sides of more than 3 risers.
- o Required on elevated surface greater than 24 inches above floor or grade (decks, lofts, balconies)
- o Height must be minimum of 36 inches above floor.
- o Between guards not less than 4 3/8-inch gap.
- o If ropes, cable, or similar material used should not allow sphere of 3.5" diameter pass w/ vertical structural support posts should be no more than 4 feet apart.

Stairs

- o Triangle opening by the riser, tread and bottom rail must not allow passage of a sphere 6" in diameter.
- o Open risers shall not exceed more than 4" height.

Exemptions to these requirements:

- o Egress window wells, retaining walls, landscape features, detached walkways, or stairs that are not apart of a dwelling.

