

6. Where it is not possible for a wheelchair user to see from one end of the ramp to the other, or the ramp has 3 flights or more, the intermediate landings are a minimum of 1800mm long and 1800mm wide.

7. The maximum cross-fall gradient on the ramp or landing is 1:50.

8. A continuous handrail, set at appropriate height, is provided along both side of each ramp slope and all intermediate landings and extending 300mm beyond the start and finish of the ramp slope.

9. Edge protection, contrasting visually with the ramp and landing surface, formed by a continuous 100mm high up-stand or equivalent barrier is provided to any open edge of the ramp in addition to any requirements for guarding or handrails.
10. The surface materials are durable, easy to maintain and slip-resistant when wet. The surface materials' coefficient of friction is appropriate to the ramp gradient so that adequate traction is provided. The frictional characteristics are similar for ramp slope and landings even if the materials used are different.

11. The ramp is orientated to avoid glare from the surfaces or confusing strong shadows.

12. Artificial lighting providing, an even level of illumination of 100 lux (measured at the surface), is provided along the full length of the ramp and at landings.

13. Where temporary ramps are provided they comply with all of the above.

14. Portable ramps are only used in exceptional circumstances for existing buildings, are not be
- used for more than one calendar month in a calendar year, have a minimum width of 800mm and otherwise comply as closely as possible with all of the above.

15. Where the soffit beneath a ramp is less than 2000mm above the finished floor level the area beneath is protected by guarding and low level cane detection or a barrier providing the same degree of protection.

16. Guarding and handrails comply with Section 3.4.

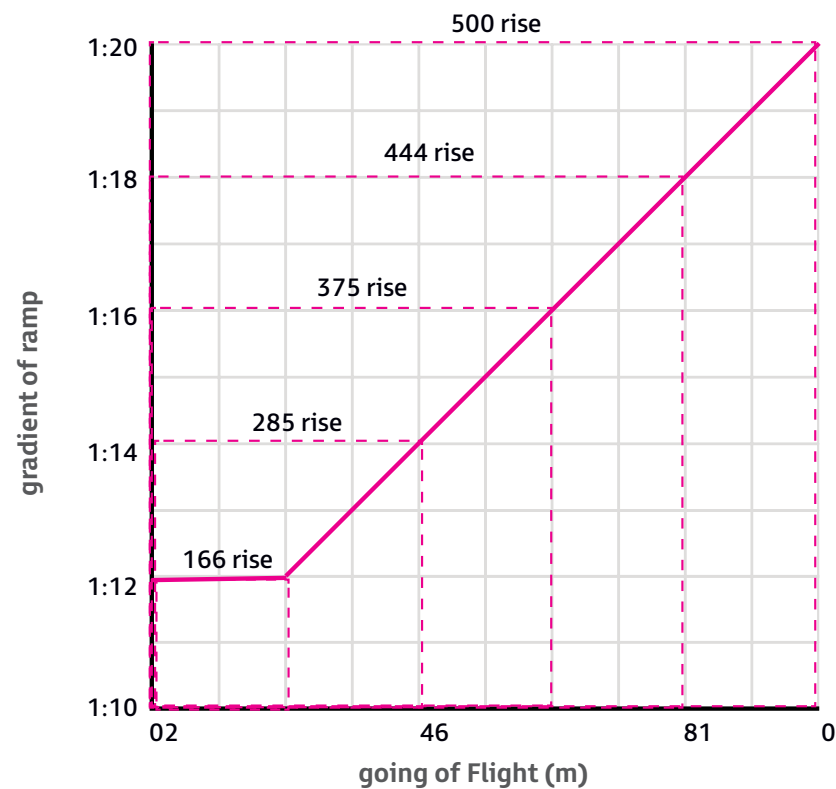


Figure 15 / Ramp gradients

3.2.2 MANDATORY DESIGN OBJECTIVES

GENERAL

1. Ramps can form interesting landscape features or architectural elements if well designed and integrated at the initial design stage. Ramps should not be used as an afterthought to solve poor resolution of plot and / or building levels.

2. Although ramps enable wheelchair users, people with push chairs and wheeled luggage to negotiate level changes they may present difficulties to other vulnerable users. Limitations on ramp gradients and length and the provision of landings are designed to limit the physical effort required to negotiate ramps. Gradients should be kept as shallow as practicable.
- Provided there is a level change of greater than 300mm (allowing for 2 steps) steps should be provided adjacent to ramps to provide an alternative form of access (see Figure 16).

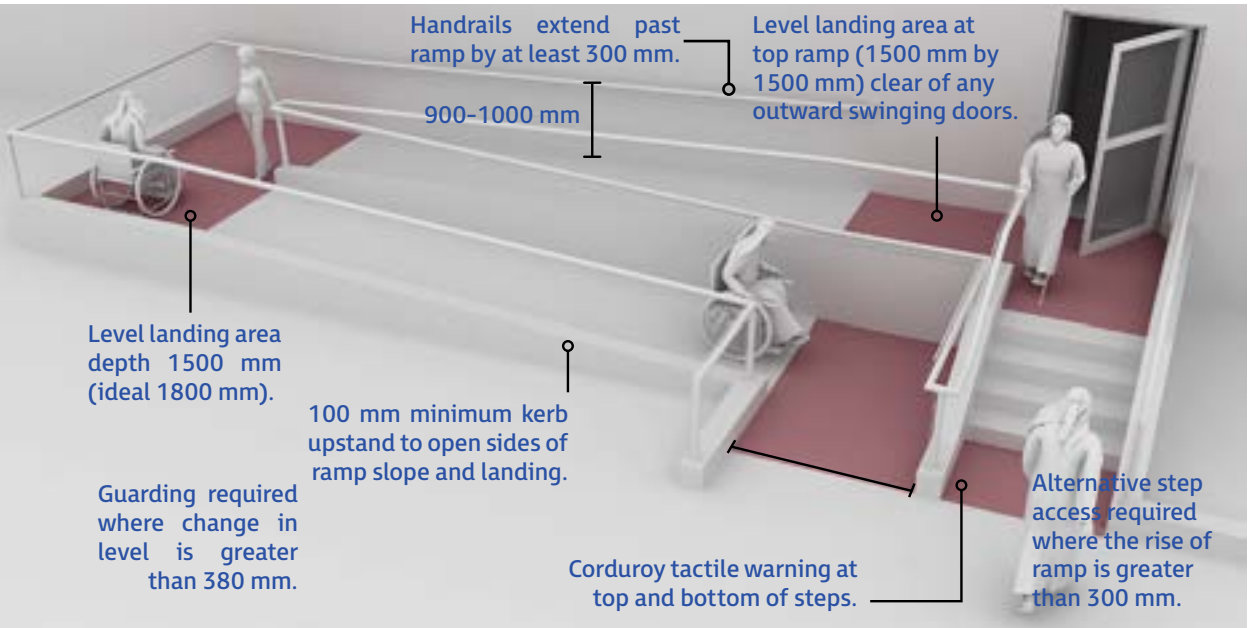


Figure 16 / Ramp and adjacent steps