## Handrail Grip Size Requirements As Outlined In the 2021 International Residential Code (IRC)

## R311.7.8.5 Handrail Grip Size

Required handrails shall be of one of the following types or provide equivalent graspability.
(Type I) Handrails with a circular cross section shall have an outside diameter of at least $1 \frac{1}{4}$ inches and not greater than 2 inches. If the handrail is not circular it shall have a perimeter dimension of at least 4 inches and not greater than $61 / 4$ inches with a maximum cross section dimension of $2 \frac{1}{4}$ inches.

(Type II) Handrails with a perimeter greater than $6 \frac{1}{4}$ inches shall provide a graspable finger recess area on both sides of the profile. The finger recess shall begin within a distance of $3 / 4$ inch measured vertically from the tallest portion of the profile and achieve a depth of at least $5 / 16$ inch within $7 / 8$ inch below the widest portion of the profile. This required depth shall continue for at least $3 / 8$ inch to a level that is not less than $13 / 4$ inches below the tallest portion of the profile. The minimum width of the handrail above the recess shall be $1 \frac{1}{4}$ inches to a maximum of $23 / 4$ inches. Edges shall have a minimum radius of 0.01 inches.


