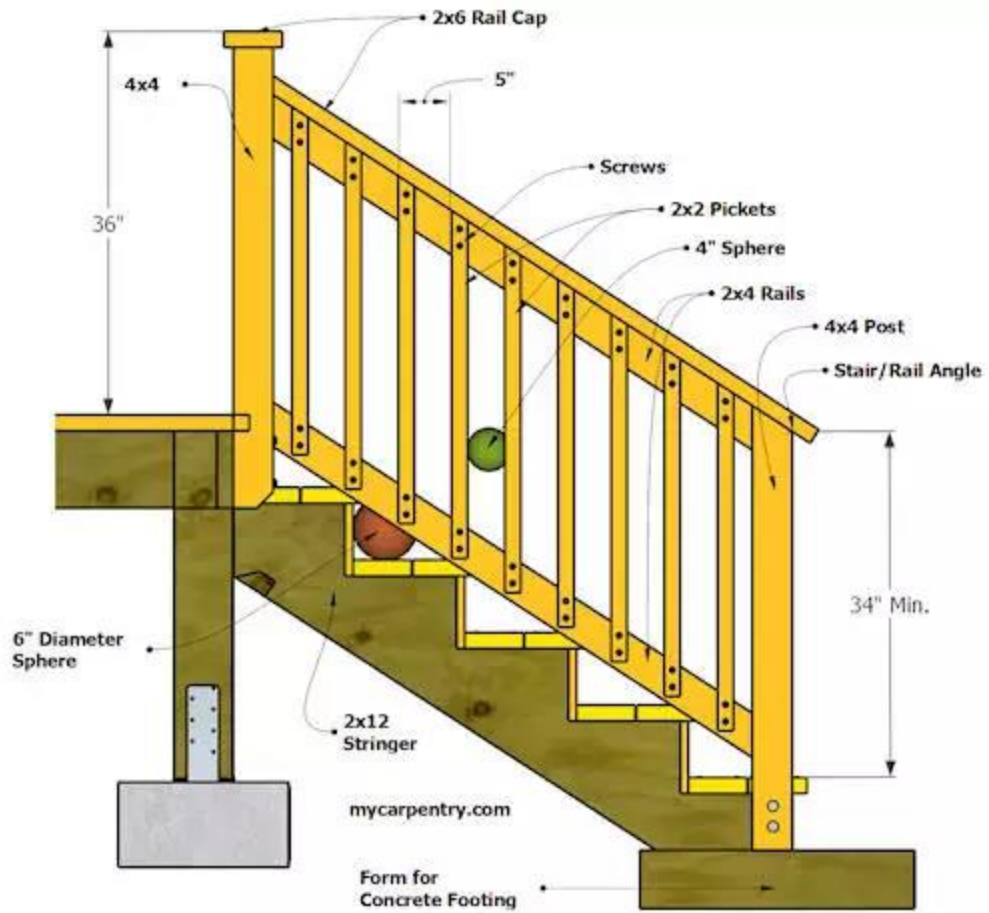


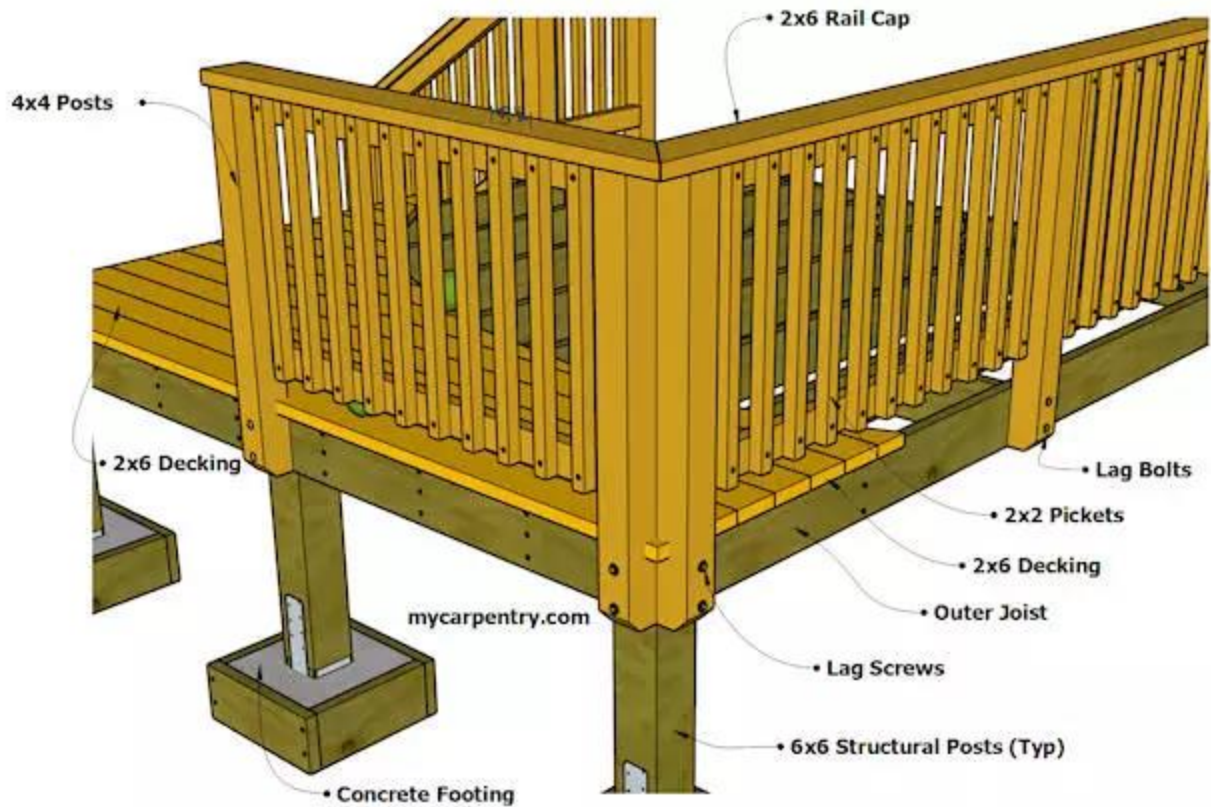
The following is intended only to give you guidelines on the general requirements for steps and railings. The main thing to remember is that you want to have a safe access to your deck or entry. Safety should be your main consideration and the building code is only a minimum requirement.

Building Codes: Unincorporated Park County has not adopted building codes. We encourage builders and property owners to refer to the International Building Code. Further, we do not issue Certificates of Occupancy or Certificates of Completion.

Stairs. Inspect the condition of exterior stairs and railings using the current building code as a guide. Every stair with more than three steps should have a handrail located 34 to 38 inches above the edges of the stair tread. Shake all railings vigorously to check their stability and inspect their fastenings. Stairs that are more than 30 inches above the adjacent grade and walks located more than 30 inches above the grade immediately below should have guards not less than 36 inches high and intermediate rails that will not allow the passage of a sphere 4 inches in diameter. Check wooden steps for proper support and strength and for rot and insect infestation. Inspect steel stairs for rust, strength, and attachment. Deteriorated stairs should be repaired or replaced. Stair treads should be as level as possible without holding water. It is preferable that stairs in walks on site that are accessible to the general public have at least three risers. Stair riser heights and tread depths should be respectively uniform.



Deck railing: Railing is required for decks that are 30" (762 mm) or more above the ground.



Building code suggests that rail post span should not exceed 72" (1829 mm) - measured from the center of each post. Rail posts (also referred to as *Guard Posts*) are generally spaced evenly between straight sections of deck.

Space between the pickets and below the bottom rail should not allow a 4" (102 mm) sphere to pass through. The finished height the of the deck railing should not be less 36" (914 mm), measured from the surface of the decking to the top of the rail cap.

