

ADA AND DRIVEWAYS FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

What is ADA and what is the basic premise behind it?

ADA is the American Disabilities Act. The basic reason behind it is to allow people with disabilities reasonable access. It is civil rights legislation. It is not a building code.

What width is needed on the wheel chair ramp? *The national minimum width is 3 foot. However, NDOR uses a 4 foot minimum.*

What is the maximum cross-slope of a sidewalk? *1:50 or 2%*

What do you do to match in with driveways that may exceed this slope? *ADA requires the section of the driveway connecting to the sidewalk be rebuilt to be 3 foot wide with a 2% cross-slope. NDOR requires the minimum width to be 4 foot with 5 foot preferred.*

What are other criteria that should be used in design?

The maximum slope is 1:12 on new construction. The curb ramp should be perpendicular to the curb line with the crosswalk at the foot. A level landing pad 48" wide should be at the top.

If it is impossible to meet 1:12 slope, do you build the ramp at an intersection?

Yes, but one route must meet ADAAG criteria for an accessible route.

Why are the ramp wing flare on the state special plan different from side to side? *The flare is determined whether the surface next to the ramp is designated a walking surface or not. A side flare is used when the area next to the ramp is a walking surface. A curb return is used when the area next to the ramp is not a walking surface such as grass or cobblestone.*

Currently many modern building codes require any walkways with 6" of rise on 1:12 slope to have handrails. When are handrails required? *A "curb ramp" and a "ramp" are two different things. A "curb ramp" can have a slope up to 1:12 and does not require handrails. A regular ramp with a slope over 1:20 requires handrails on both sides. However, handrails would not be allowed within the lateral clear zone as described in the Nebraska Minimum design standards.*

Should the curb ramps be micro-textured? *Yes.*

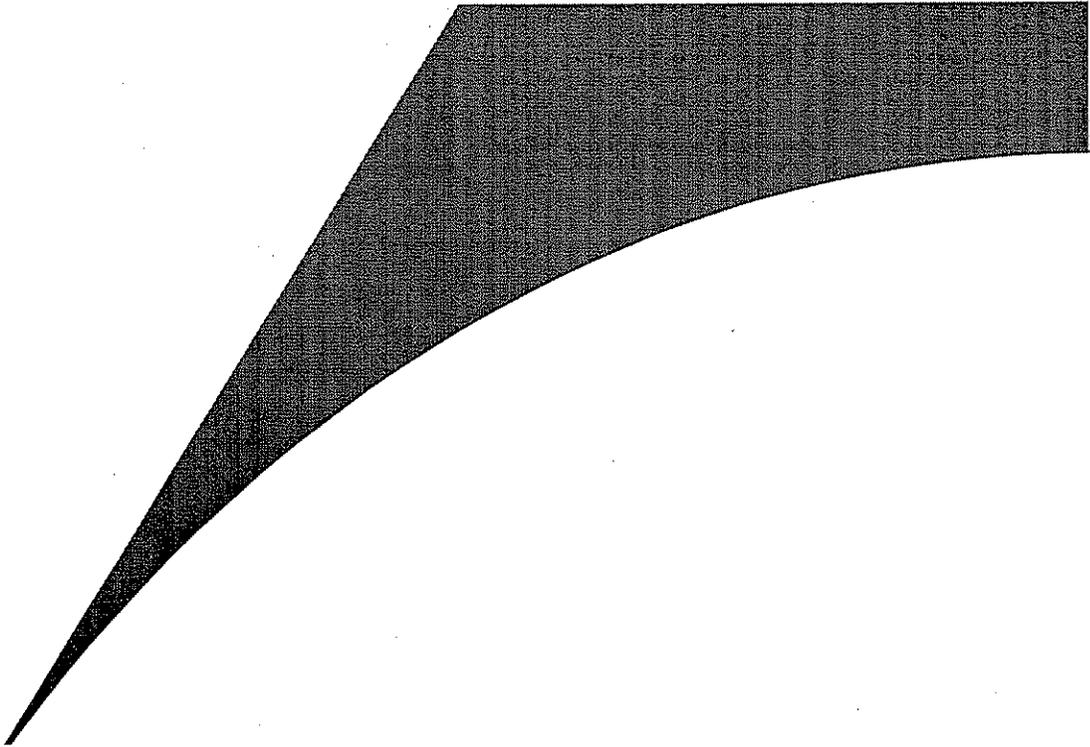
Can they be made with stamped concrete? *Not if they are on a NDOR project. NDOR special plans call for tining on the ramps, and brooming on the ramp flares. The texture of the ramp should be different than the surrounding pavement. Stamped concrete is not approved as a non-slip surface.*

What is the acceptable lip dimension for a curb ramp at the gutter line? *The federal guidelines show 1/4". NDOR plans calls for a 1 foot curb to be sloped from 0" at the gutter line to 1" high at the back of curb.*

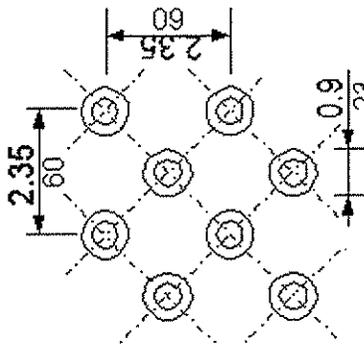
What is the clearance needed to an obstacle? *Horizontally 2'. For the Blind in the vertical direction anything 27" or below can be detected, or it needs to 6'-8" or above.*

What do you do with mailboxes and curb sidewalks? *The mailbox would need to meet the horizontal and vertical clearances mentioned above. If space is tight, a supporting pole mounted within 4 inches from the back of mailbox would make the mailbox cane detectable.*

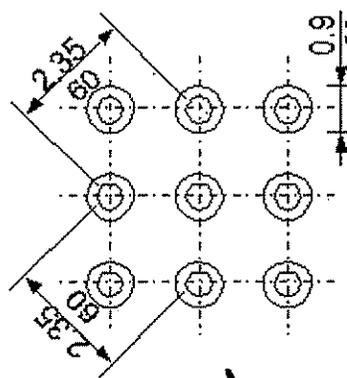
What is a truncated dome? *Details of truncated domes are attached. They should be used in a two foot wide strip on the end of curb ramps to delineate streets (not driveways) for the blind. NDOR standard plans will be changed in the future to include them.*



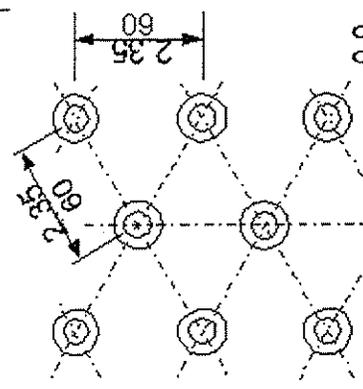
Direction of travel



Square pattern, diagonal alignment

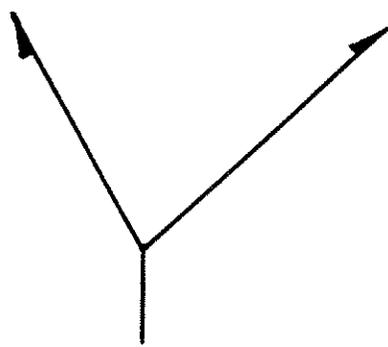


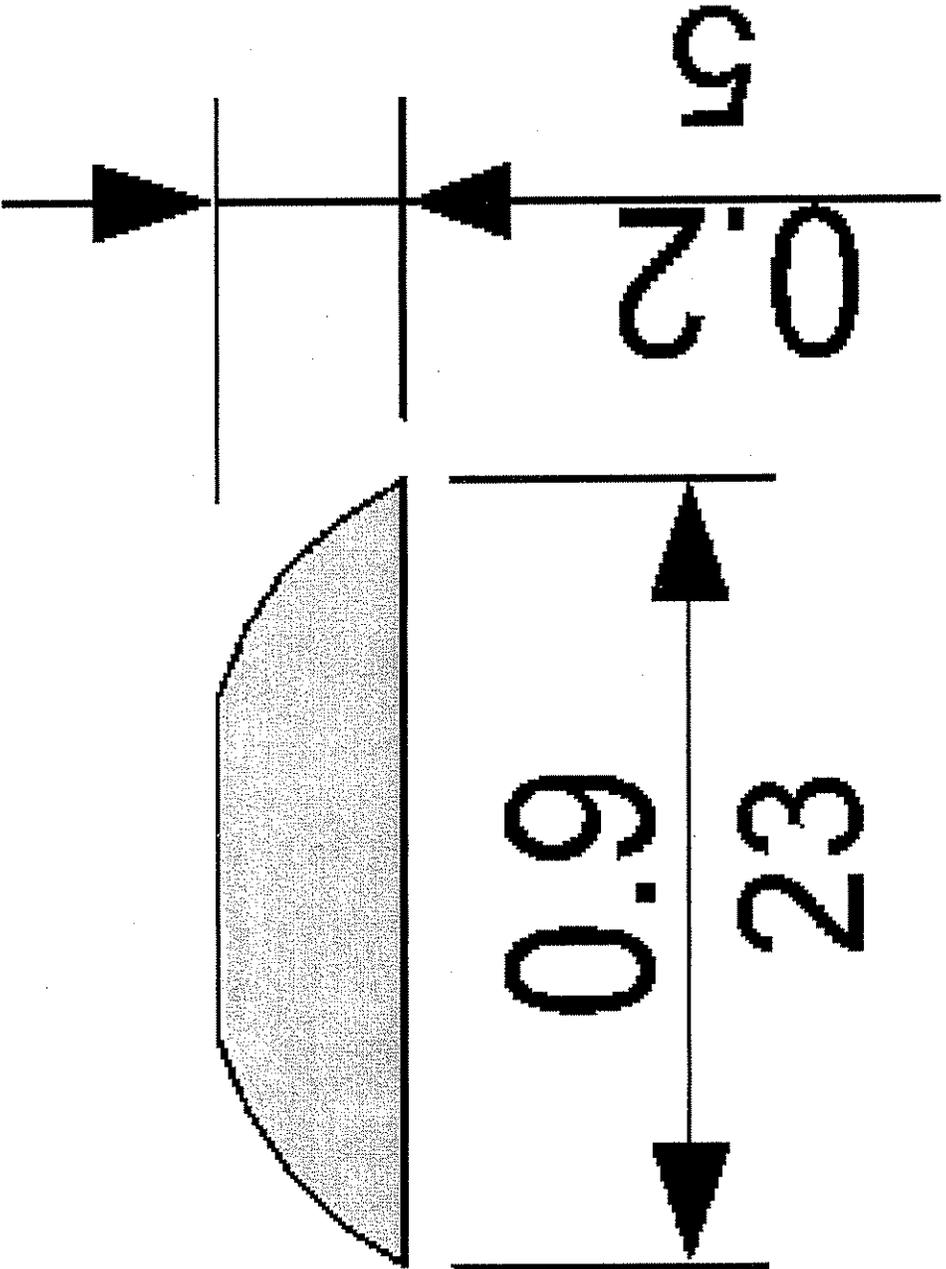
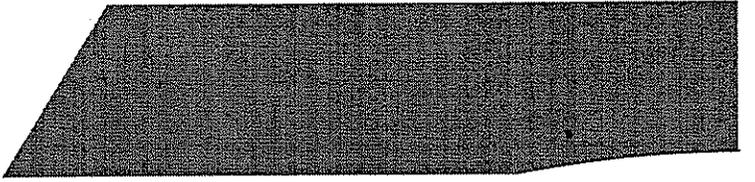
Square pattern, parallel alignment

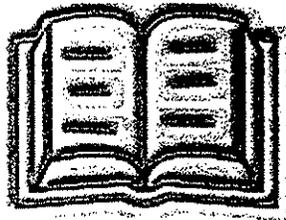


Triangular pattern

Preferred Patterns







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a federal agency committed to accessible design

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Guide to the ADA Accessibility Guidelines for Play Areas (HTML)		PDF

Advisory Committee Reports

Recommendations for a New ADAAG (HTML) Text PDF
 Accessibility Guidelines for Outdoor Developed Areas (HTML) Text PDF

◀Public Rights-of-Way***Guidance Material***

Good Reference

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Accessible Pedestrian Signals (HTML) Text PDF

Advisory Committee Report

Building a True Community: Accessible Public Rights-of-Way (HTML) PDF

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Guidance Material

Manuals on ADA Accessibility Guidelines for Transportation Vehicles (HTML) Text PDF

Securement of Wheelchairs and Other Mobility Aids (HTML) Text PDF

Guidelines for Aircraft Boarding Chairs (HTML) Text PDF

Aircraft Stowage Procedures for Battery Powered Wheelchairs (HTML) Text PDF

Advisory Committee Report

Recommendations for Accessibility Guidelines for Passenger Vessels (HTML) Text PDF

◀Communication***Guidelines and Standards***

Telecommunications Act Accessibility Guidelines (HTML) Text PDF

Final Standards for Electronic & Information Technology (HTML) Text PDF

Guidance Material

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