

Basic Outline to Australian Standard - AS 1428.1-2009

The information below is of a general nature and does not constitute advice.

Legal advice should be sought for specific circumstances.

Australian Standard 1428.1-2009 supersedes Australian Standard 1428.1-2001. Australian Standard 1428.1-2009 is now in full operation.

OBJECTIVE OF THE STANDARD

The objective of the AS 1428.1-2009 is to provide building designers and users with the minimum design requirements for new building work to enable access for people with disabilities.

The *Building Code of Australia* and *Disability Standards* provide information on which classes of buildings are to be made accessible and the areas from which that should be made accessible.

The standard applies to many *Building Code of Australia* building classes. This includes office blocks, education facilities, retail outlets, entertainment venues, and buildings used for commercial activities. **Private residences** are not covered by AS 1428.1-2009. However, common areas of apartment blocks are covered if the apartment block has apartments available for short-term rent.

EXEMPTIONS FROM THE STANDARD

AS1428.1-2009 does not apply to class 1(a) buildings. As classified under the Building Code of Australia class 1(a) buildings are described as single dwellings or attached dwellings e.g. a terrace, duplex, attached villas and townhouses etc

There is also provision for exemption from the standard for unjustifiable hardship.

APPLICATION FOR NEW BUILDINGS AND NEW WORK ON EXISTING BUILDINGS

Since coming into operation the standard applies to new buildings lodged for regulatory approval. Where new work is undertaken on existing buildings, such as extensions or renovations, the new part of the building will be required to comply. Some upgrades or improvements that are general maintenance in nature that do not require building approvals do not need to comply with the standard. The standard is not imposed on existing buildings outside the area of the new work.

APPLYING AS 1428.1-2009

When Applying AS 1428.1-2009 The following should be considered

Threshold Ramps (Ramps up to 35mm)

Gradient 1:8

- There must be no cross fall
- A maximum gradient of 1:8
- A maximum rise(height) of 35mm
- When where ever possible the ramp should have wings attached(splayed at the sides).

The wings should not have an angle greater than 45 degrees.

- The gradient of the ramp shall be consistent throughout the length, with a maximum allowable tolerance of 3%.

- Shall be located within 20mm of the door leaf which it serves

Step Ramps (Ramps up to 190mm)

Gradient 1:10

- There must be no cross fall
- A maximum gradient of 1:10
- A maximum rise (height) of 190mm
- When possible the ramp should have wings attached (splayed at the sides). The wings should not have an angle greater than 45 degrees. If the ramp has hand rails, those hand rails should also incorporate a low barrier parallel to the ramp.
- Have Tactile Ground Surface Indicators (TGSIs) at the top and bottom of the change in transition. The TGSIs should be 600-800mm in depth across the full width of the path of travel.
- The gradient of the ramp shall be consistent throughout the length, with a maximum allowable tolerance of 3%.

High Step Ramps (Ramps over 190mm)

Gradient 1:14

- There must be no cross fall
- A maximum gradient of 1:14
- The gradient of the ramp shall be consistent throughout the length, with a maximum allowable tolerance of 3%.
- Ramp shall have hand rails installed
- Have Tactile Ground Surface Indicators (TGSIs) at the top and bottom of the change in transition. The TGSIs should be 600-800mm in depth across the full width of the path of travel.

Please Note:

It is the responsibility of the installer to assess the requirements of the site to determine the appropriate ramp for the site that complies with Australia Standard AS1428.1-2009