



**Informal Interpretation Report
Number 6816**



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Edition 2007

Section R311

Question:

1) Is it the intent of R311 to require two risers and a tread to be between 24" and 25" in a condition where only a total of 3 exterior steps (not a full-fledged 'stairway') are needed in a backyard rear entry (not main entry)? 2) Also in same condition (and door at top of exterior steps swings inside home) ---is a landing at the top of the three steps required and if so does the landing have to be 36" deep in the path of travel?

Answer

[1] The sum of 24" to 25" for two risers and one tread is permissible, not required. Note that R311.5.3.1 and R311.5.3.2 have max heights for risers and min widths for treads.

[2] Yes, a landing is required, minimum 36". The only exception is R311.4.3 which is for 2 or fewer risers.

Commentary:

None.

Notice:

The Building Officials Association of Florida, in cooperation with the Florida Building Commission, the Florida Department of Business & Professional Regulation, ICC, and industry and professional experts offer this interpretation of the Florida Building Code in the interest of consistency in their application statewide. This interpretation is informal, non-binding and subject to acceptance and approval by the local building official.