

OBC Stair & Glass Railing Checklist

Pre-inspection compliance guide for custom stair systems in Ontario

1. Open Riser & 100 mm Sphere Rule

Verify that any opening between treads blocks a 100 mm (4 in) sphere. Use solid riser bars, glass infill, or extended hardwood tread lips to close the gap while preserving the open-riser aesthetic.

2. Guardrail Heights

Interior stair guards must be at least 900 mm high. Landing and mezzanine guards must be at least 1,070 mm high. Measure from the tread nosing or finished floor.

3. Point-Load & Glass Certification

Guards must resist required concentrated and uniform loads. All glass must be CAN/CGSB 12.1-2017 certified tempered or laminated safety glass.

4. P.Eng Stamped Structural Drawings

Concealed steel stringers, floating supports, and cantilever mounts require stamped drawings from an Ontario-licensed P.Eng for permit submission.

5. Tread Depth, Rise & Handrail Continuity

Maximum riser height and minimum tread depth must meet OBC Part 9 limits. Adjacent rises cannot vary beyond allowed tolerance. Handrails must be continuous and graspable.

6. Municipal Inspection Schedule

Schedule rough-in inspection before drywall closes structural steel. Schedule final inspection after treads, guards, and handrails are installed.

☐	100 mm sphere rule verified
☐	Guard heights measured (900 / 1,070 mm)
☐	Glass certificates on site
☐	P.Eng stamped drawings submitted
☐	Riser/tread dimensions within OBC limits
☐	Continuous handrail installed
☐	Rough-in inspection passed
☐	Final inspection passed

This checklist is for educational purposes. Always consult a licensed Ontario P.Eng and your local building department for project-specific requirements.