

BC BUILDING CODE INTERPRETATION COMMITTEE

A joint committee with members representing
AIBC, EGBC, BOABC

File No: 18-0090

INTERPRETATION

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Interpretation Date:	December 15, 2020
Building Code Edition:	BC Building Code 2018
Subject:	Doorway emptying onto ramp, length of landing
Keywords:	Landing length, ramp, doorway, end wall
Building Code Reference(s):	3.4.6.4.(5)

Question:

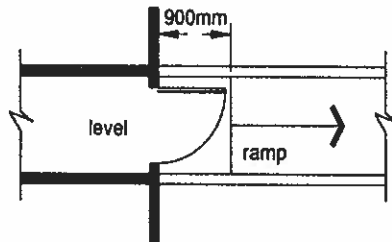
For ramps not designed for use by persons with disabilities, Sentence 3.4.6.4.(5) requires that where a doorway empties onto a ramp through an end wall, a level area is required across the ramp width and for a 900mm length.

Does this mean that a 900mm door at the end wall, emptying onto the ramp landing, can swing up to or even over the edge of the landing where it meets the sloping part of the ramp?

Interpretation:

Yes.

For ramps not used by persons with disabilities, Sentence 3.4.6.4.(5) and its intent statements consider that a minimum 900mm long landing, where a doorway empties onto a ramp through an end wall, will provide sufficient space to avoid tripping and falling, congestion or delays during evacuation, or for emergency responders. Refer to the following diagram:



Practically however, depending on whether the ramp slopes up or down, there may be conflict between the ramp surface and the edge of the door swing, if the door is wider than the landing length. This situation is not addressed by the Building Code.

However, it is good design practice to allow the door to have its swing entirely over a level surface.

Patrick Shek, P.Eng., CP, FEC, Committee Chair

The views expressed are the consensus of the joint committee with members representing AIBC, EGBC and BOABC, which form the BC Building Code Interpretation Committee. The Building and Safety Standards Branch, Province of BC and the City of Vancouver participate in the committee's proceedings with respect to interpretations of the BC Building Code. The purpose of the committee is to encourage uniform province wide interpretation of the BC Building Code. These views should not be considered as the official interpretation of legislated requirements based on the BC Building Code, as final responsibility for an interpretation rests with the local *Authority Having Jurisdiction*. The views of the joint committee should not be construed as legal advice.