


Appendix

Equipment Competencies Baseline Knowledge Sheet Minor Adaptations EQUIPMENT GROUP

Temporary Ramping	
	<p>DESCRIPTION</p> <p>A ramp is a sloping surface joining two different levels, as at the entrance of a building. In the context of equipment provision ramps are usually used to provide wheelchair access in and out of a property. Ramps can be portable, semi-permanent or permanent.</p>
<p>Considerations prior to issue</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How long is the ramp needed for? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Portable ramps may be appropriate for immediate short term or urgent need ○ If need is long term then permanent ramping (via a Disabled Facilities Grant) is the correct route ○ It may be that semi-permanent ramping is appropriate for short term use where repeatedly positioning portable ramps is not feasible or practicable ○ See Ramps Process in CEQuip Document Library for flow chart to aid decision making • What is the existing environment like? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Supporting surfaces should be secure, slip resistant and level ○ Will the ramp cause an obstruction to other residents? ○ Is there space for a ramp that will achieve at most a 1:12 gradient? • Will the ramp be frequently lifted? If so, consider the: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ ability of the person who will be moving it ○ weight and design of the ramp ○ space for storage • What type of wheelchair will be using the ramp? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ For example a 3 wheeled scooter will require a ramp that can support the middle wheel • What load will the ramp need to support? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ This will be the user + wheelchair/scooter + carer (if chair is attendant propelled) • Who else will use the ramp? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Ambulatory people can find ramps more difficult than steps ○ Propelling a wheelchair up or down slopes requires strength, dexterity and confidence - does the user have these abilities? ○ Shallow wide steps can be more accessible than a ramp for those with mobility aids ○ Stepped access should ideally be provided next to a permanent ramp 	
<p>When should this equipment be used?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Short term/temporary need e.g. palliative, urgent discharge, awaiting rehousing, rehabilitation ongoing and client not expected to need ramping long term • The height of the step can be accommodated by one of the range of ramping options available whilst achieving the appropriate gradient (1:12) 	
<p>Contra – Indications for use</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A gradient of 1:12 or shallower cannot be achieved. This could be compromised for short term use; a risk assessment should be documented to show this has been considered. • Surfaces that the ramp will be going between are unstable or not level • Temporary ramps should only be provided as a short term temporary solution until it is possible to provide a permanent ramps 	
<p>Fitting Gradient</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Should be no steeper than 1:12 and preferably should be 1:15 or 1:20 (Part M Building 	

Gloucestershire Community Equipment Service
Equipment Competencies Baseline Knowledge Sheet
Minor Adaptations EQUIPMENT GROUP

Regulation). E.g.

Step Height	Ramp Length
750mm (3")	915mm/3'
100mm/4"	1200mm/4'
150mm/6"	1800mm/6'
200mm/8"	2400mm/8'
250mm/10"	3000mm/10'

- This should ideally be applied to temporary ramps, although in some cases it is difficult to achieve due to the existing environment. Risk assess whether gradient can be compromised for short-term use.

Landings

- Semi-permanent and permanent ramps should always have a level landing at top & bottom
- Landings should also be provided at least every 5m for gradients up to 1:12 or 10m for gradients up to 1:15 and wherever a change of direction occurs
- Minimum landing size is 1200 x 1500, clear of the swing of the door
- Minimum turning circle to be allowed for is 1200mm²

Edges

- Raised edges (also called upstands and kerbs) at open sides of the ramp are intended to prevent a wheelchair user falling over the edge of the ramp
- Minimum height is 100mm
- Usually included as standard on temporary ramping equipment

Surface

- Should be durable and easy to maintain
- Should be slip resistant when wet

Temporary Ramping Options



Doorframe ramps (also called threshold ramps)

- One piece ramp
- For going over a door threshold only, GIS standard stock will clear thresholds up to 70mm
- Should have a slip resistant surface
- Need to be put in place each time they are used



Portable (suitcase) ramps via GIS standard stock

- Should have a surface width of at least 800mm
- Should have a drainable, slip-resistant surface
- Should have upstands of at least 100mm
- Gradients should conform as closely as practicable to between 1:20 and 1:12 (see table above for length of ramp required dependent on height of step)
- Need to be put in place each time they are used

Equipment Competencies Baseline Knowledge Sheet Minor Adaptations EQUIPMENT GROUP



Jet Marine type ramps via Safe at Home

- Can be described as “semi-permanent”, they are not portable and have durability
- Can be re-used via GIS when no longer required (collection required via Safe at Home)
- Stay in place
- Have colour contrasting slip resistant surface
- Hand rails can be added as required for longer sections of ramping
- Come in sections including straight lengths, platforms, corners
- Safe at Home will visit to identify if Jet Marine ramping is appropriate and what sections would be required, they will provide quote and when approved will order appropriate sections from GIS and fit



Wooden Ramps

- May be the most suitable way to meet a short term high risk need
- Not durable
- Not possible to calculate safe working load
- Cannot be recycled
- Risk assessment needed to document clinic reasoning why this is the most appropriate solution
- Risk assessment needs to include a plan for regular monitoring of the ramps condition as wood may deteriorate
- Minimum standards within this guidance must be adhered to

Checks Prior to use

- Ramps can be hazardous in adverse weather, check the ramp is clear of snow and ice
- Portable ramps should be checked for stability before using

Recommendations /instructions for use

Fitting

- **Doorframe ramp** – Position ramp over the threshold, ensure it touches the ground on both sides of the threshold
- **Suitcase ramp/telescopic ramps**
 - Always fully open/extend the ramps before use to minimize the risk of injury, and also make any ascent or descent using the ramps easier.
 - Place the angled lip end of the ramp on the ground or low point, and place the wide end of the ramp the high ground.

Using

- Wheelchairs should be backed down the ramp

Maintenance

- Keep ramps clean of any dirt or debris
- Where weather results in ramp being covered in snow or ice the slip resistance of a surface ceases to be effective. External ramp surfaces should therefore be kept free of snow or ice. If the client (or family/carer) is unable to keep the ramp free of snow or ice they should be advised of this risk and should not use the ramp if it cannot be cleared.
- Doorframe ramp can be cleaned with domestic cleaning materials without abrasive or corrosive

Gloucestershire Community Equipment Service
Equipment Competencies Baseline Knowledge Sheet
Minor Adaptations EQUIPMENT GROUP

properties. Solvents and chlorine should not be used

- Suitcase ramps/folding ramps should be cleaned with mild detergent and left to dry before folding away. They should be kept clear of any dirt or debris which could interfere with the sliding or folding motions
- Users of ramps should regularly check them for worn, loose or damaged parts,

References

British Standards Institution (2009) *Design of buildings and their approaches to meet the needs of disabled people – Code of Practice* Available at:

https://www.ijsmail.ac.uk/cgi-bin/webadmin?A3=ind1206&L=ADMIN-EO&E=base64&P=3620270&B=--_005_64A73C9000C99A47915D6CBCFD0AFEB323D61671BHEXMBX2livadli_&T=application%2Fpdf+their+approaches+code+of+practiuce.pdf%22;%20name=%22BS%208300%202009%20%20design%20of%20building%22&N=BS%208300%202009%20%20design%20of%20building&attachment=q&XSS=3 Accessed on 18/02/2016

HM Govt (2015) *The Building Regulations 2010 Access to and us of buildings Part M* Available at:

https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/441785/BR_PDF_AD_M1_2015.pdf accessed on 18/02/2015