

SLIP RESISTANCE FOR STAIRWAYS

The amendments to the BCA that came into effect on 1 May 2014 clarified the slip-resistance treatment requirements for stair treads, ramps and landings.

Since 1 May 2014, stair treads, ramps and landings have been required to comply with a slip-resistance classification specified in the BCA when tested to the 2013 version of AS4586 '*Slip resistance classification of new pedestrian surface materials*'. This requirement applies to all finishes and surface types including carpet, tiles, timber, vinyl, concrete and metal.

Stair treads must have either a surface or a nosing strip with a slip-resistance classification not less than that listed in Table 3.9.1.3 of the BCA when tested in accordance with AS4586.

The floor surface of a ramp must have a slip resistance not less than that listed in Table 3.9.1.3 when tested in accordance with AS4586.

Where the edge of landing leads to a flight below, the landing must have a surface with a slip-resistance classification not less than that listed in Table 3.9.1.3 of the BCA when tested in accordance with AS 4586, for not less than 190mm from the stair nosing, or a nosing strip with a slip resistance not less than that listed in Table 3.9.1.3 when tested in accordance with AS4586.

Table 3.9.1.3 establishes six slip-resistance classifications. These are dependent on the application, the type of test used and the surface condition (wet or dry).

A wet surface includes a surface that is exposed to weather or, on occasions becomes wet. A dry surface is one that is not normally wet or likely to be made wet, other than by an accidental spill or general cleaning.

Your PCA will not be responsible for the testing of the product to AS4586 however will need to be satisfied that the required testing has been completed to ensure the slip-resistance requirements of the BCA have been satisfied prior to the issue of an Occupation Certificate.

Where the product is consistent and does not vary considerably as part of the manufacturing process, a laboratory test may be appropriate. The supplier or manufacturer will be able to supply the necessary slip-resistance information and test reports as evidence that the product has been tested in accordance with AS4586.

Where laboratory testing is not possible e.g. timber stairs with polished treads an in-situ test will be required. Alternatively however, a compliant tested nosing strip could be attached to the treads and landings.

From 1 February 2017, your PCA may request an installation certificate to confirm that the slip-resistance requirements of the BCA have been satisfied and tested in accordance with AS4586. We have provided a template as a guide.

Table 3.9.1.3 SLIP-RESISTANCE CLASSIFICATION

Application	Surface conditions	
	Dry	Wet
Ramp not steeper than 1:8	P4 or R10	P5 or R12
Tread surface	P3 or R10	P4 or R11
Nosing or landing edge strip	P3	P4

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Principal Certifying Authority
Local Certification Services Pty Ltd
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Office Address Line 2
Email: info@localgroup.com.au

SLIP RESISTANCE CERTIFICATION (CLASS 1 & 10)

ADDRESS: _____

REFERENCE NUMBER: _____

Dear Sir or Madam,

With reference to the project mentioned above, I hereby certify that the internal and external stair treads and/or landings have:

- a surface, or
- a nosing strip,

with the appropriate slip resistance classification in accordance with Clause 3.9.1.4 and Table 3.9.1.4 of Volume 2 of the Building Code of Australia. *(Attach certification of testing of surface or nosing trip in accordance with AS4586:2013).*

I am appropriately qualified and experienced to provide the certification for this component of the project.

Signature

Accreditation No., Licence No. or Qualification

Print Name

Date of Inspection or Work Carried Out

Phone Number

Email Address