



# LA *al fresco*

**2024 L.A. AL FRESCO DISABLED ACCESS TOOLKIT**



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# INTRODUCTION



The purpose of this Toolkit is to guide businesses in meeting their obligations to provide equal access to customers with disabilities. This access shall be in accordance with disabled access laws, regulations, and standards.

All Al Fresco installations, including those located on the sidewalk, in the street, and on private property shall meet minimum accessibility requirements. The information provided within this Toolkit is a summary of the most common accessibility requirements for on-street and sidewalk dining in the public right-of-way. This Toolkit does not include all applicable requirements. Please refer to applicable codes and reference materials as needed.

For general information call 311,  
visit [buildla.lacity.org/alfresco](http://buildla.lacity.org/alfresco)  
or scan the QR code.







# ADA REQUIREMENTS



Accessibility requirements in this Toolkit apply to fixed and movable elements within the Al Fresco Sidewalk and On-Street dining areas. This Toolkit will help direct applicants to comply with day-to-day accessibility rules and regulations.

The requirements stated in this Toolkit apply to all Al Fresco Sidewalk and On-Street dining in the public right-of-way.





# ADA REQUIREMENTS

## Accessible Routes

The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) regulations define an accessible route as “a continuous unobstructed path connecting all accessible elements and spaces of a building or facility.”





# ADA REQUIREMENTS

## Accessible Routes

*Accessible routes shall be provided to and through dining areas*

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### **Width Clearances - Sidewalk Pedestrian Access Route (PAR)**

A 5-foot clear space between encroachments (tables and chairs) and obstructions, such as power poles, street lights, parking meters and trees shall be maintained as the PAR (see Diagram 1).

Restaurants are responsible for making sure the PAR is always maintained and free and clear at all times, including customers do not form lines or wait in the PAR.

The PAR may be reduced to 4-feet by installing a fixed railing when approved by the Bureau of Engineering (BOE). Fixed railings or barriers (30-inch minimum/42-inch maximum in height) shall be required if the clear space between the sidewalk dining area to the curb or other fixed amenities is less than 5-feet. If the clear space is 5-feet or more, rails or barriers are not required. Non-fixed rails may also be allowed when the clearance is 5-feet or more, subject to BOE approval.

Installation of fixed railings or barriers would require applicants transitioning from the Temporary Use Authority Program to apply for a modified Revocable (R)-Permit and A-Permit. New applicants would apply for an R-Permit and A-Permit.



# ADA REQUIREMENTS

## Accessible Routes

*Accessible routes shall be provided to and through dining areas*

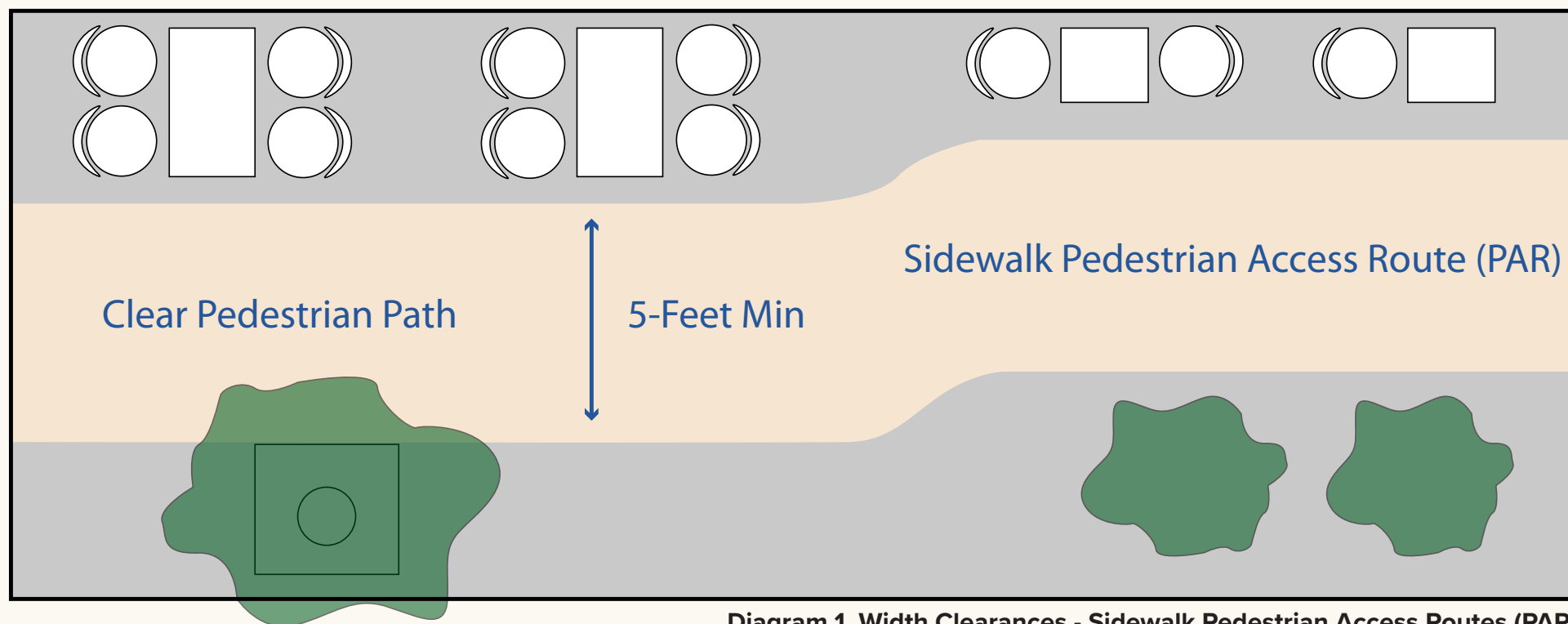


Diagram 1. Width Clearances - Sidewalk Pedestrian Access Routes (PAR)





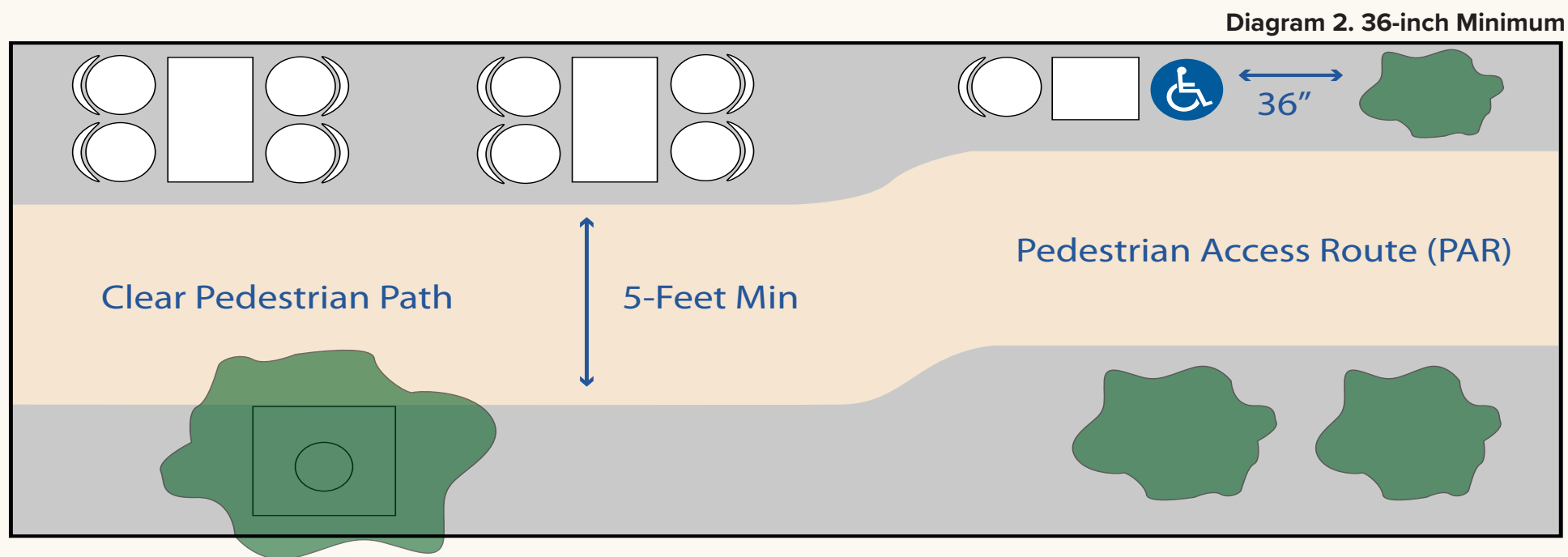
# ADA REQUIREMENTS

## Accessible Routes

*Accessible routes shall be provided to and through dining areas*

### Width Clearances - Routes to and from Accessible Tables

The clear width for aisles (from edge of wheelchair to furniture and/or seated person) shall be 36-inches minimum (Diagram 2) if dining surfaces are on only one side, and 44-inches minimum (Diagram 3) if dining surfaces are on both sides.







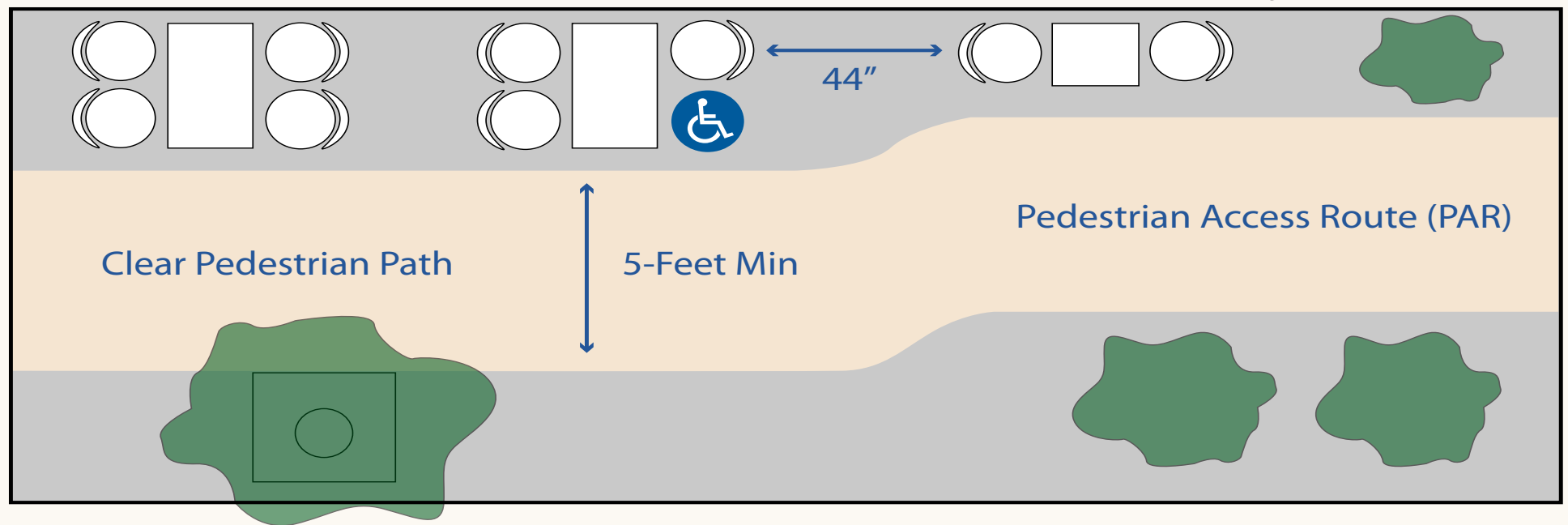
# ADA REQUIREMENTS

## Accessible Routes

*Accessible routes shall be provided to and through dining areas*

### Width Clearances - Routes to and from Accessible Tables - *continued*

Diagram 3. 44-inch Minimum



Where the accessible route makes a 180 degree turn around an element (such as a table) which is less than 48-inches wide, clear width shall be 42-inches minimum approaching the turn, 48-inches minimum at the turn, and 42-inches minimum leaving the turn.



# ADA REQUIREMENTS

## Accessible Routes

*Accessible routes shall be provided to and through dining areas*

### Width Clearances - Clear Width at a Turn

Where the accessible route makes a 180 degree turn around an element (such as a table) which is less than 48-inches wide, clear width shall be 42-inches minimum approaching the turn, 48-inches minimum at the turn, and 42-inches minimum leaving the turn.

Where the clear width at the turn is 60 inches minimum, clear width shall be 36-inches minimum approaching the turn and 36-inches minimum leaving the turn.

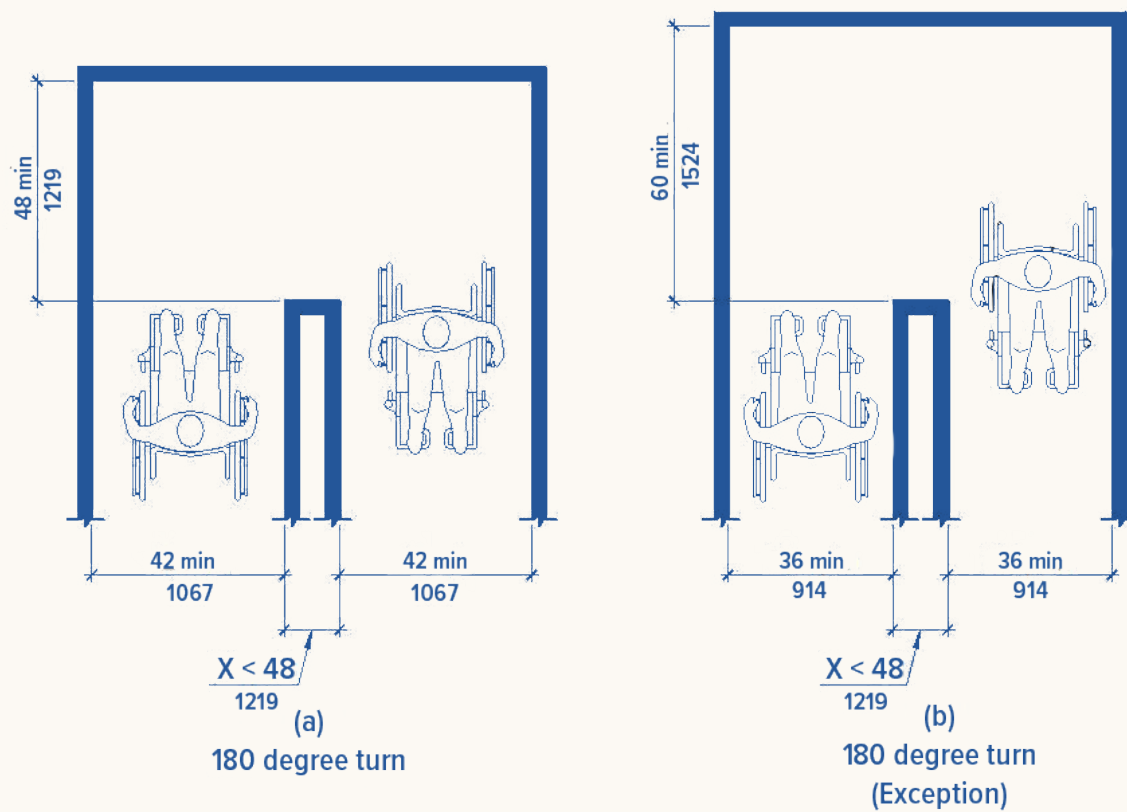


Diagram 4. Clear Width at Turn





# ADA REQUIREMENTS

## Accessible Routes

*Accessible routes shall be provided to and through dining areas*

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### **Doors and Gates**

- Doors and gates to and from outdoor dining areas are part of an accessible route.
- Manual doors and gates intended for user passage shall comply with California Building Code (CBC) Section 11B-404.2, including:
  - A clear width of 32-inches minimum for doors and gate openings.
  - Clear openings with swinging doors and gates measured between the face of the door or gate and the stop, with the door or gate open 90 degrees.
  - A clear opening of 36-inches minimum when the length of the opening is more than 24-inches deep.
  - No projections are allowed into the required clear opening width lower than 34-inches above the finish floor or ground. Projections into the clear opening width between 34-inches and 80-inches above the finish floor or ground such as handles, latches, pulls, and other parts of the door or gate shall not exceed 4-inches.



# ADA REQUIREMENTS

## Accessible Routes

*Accessible routes shall be provided to and through dining areas*

### Doors and Gates - *continued*

- Swinging doors and gates shall have maneuvering clearances complying with the table below.

| TYPE OF USE        |                   | MINIMUM MANEUVERING CLEARANCE    |   |
|--------------------|-------------------|----------------------------------|---|
| Approach Direction | Door or Gate Side | Perpendicular to Doorway         | Parallel to Doorway<br>(beyond latch side unless noted) |
| From Front         | Pull              | 60-inches (1524 mm)              | 18-inches (457 mm) <sup>5</sup>                         |
| From Front         | Push              | 48-inches (1219 mm)              | 0-inches (0 mm) <sup>1</sup>                            |
| From Hinge Side    | Pull              | 60-inches (1524 mm)              | 36-inches (914 mm)                                      |
| From Hinge Side    | Push              | 44-inches (1118 mm) <sup>2</sup> | 22-inches (559 mm) <sup>3</sup>                         |
| From Latch Side    | Pull              | 60-inches (1524 mm)              | 24-inches (610 mm)                                      |
| From Latch Side    | Push              | 44-inches (1118 mm) <sup>4</sup> | 24-inches (610 mm)                                      |

#### Footnotes

1. Add 12-inches (305 mm) if closer and latch are provided.
2. Add 4-inches (102 mm) if closer and latch are provided.
3. Beyond hinge side.
4. Add 4-inches (102 mm) if closer is provided.
5. Add 6-inches (152 mm) at exterior side of exterior doors.





# ADA REQUIREMENTS

## Accessible Routes

*Accessible routes shall be provided to and through dining areas*

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### **Doors and Gates - continued**

- Handles, pulls and latches, locks and other operable parts on the door or gate shall comply with:
  - Operable parts of such hardware shall be 34-inches minimum and 44-inches maximum above the finish floor or ground.
- Door and gate closing speed shall comply with: (CBC Section 11B-404.2.8)
  - Door and gate closers shall be adjusted so that from an open position of 90 degrees, the time required to move the door or gate to a position of 12 degrees from the latch is 5 seconds minimum.
  - Door and gate spring hinges shall be adjusted so that from the open position of 70 degrees, the door or gate shall move to the closed position in 1.5 seconds minimum.
- The force for pushing or pulling open a door or gate shall be as follows:
  - 5 pounds maximum (forces do not apply to the force required to retract latch bolts or disengage other devices that hold the door or gate in a closed position).



# ADA REQUIREMENTS

## Accessible Routes

*Accessible routes shall be provided to and through dining areas*

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### **Doors and Gates - continued**

- Swinging door or gate surfaces within 10-inches of the finished floor or ground measured vertically shall have a smooth surface on the push side extending the full width of the door or gate. Parts creating horizontal or vertical joints in these surfaces shall be within 1/16-inch of the same plane as the other, and be free of sharp or abrasive edges. Cavities created by added kick plates shall be capped.

Exception: Doors and gates that do not extend to within 10-inches of the finish floor or ground shall not be required to comply.





# ADA REQUIREMENTS

## Accessible Routes

*Accessible routes shall be provided to and through dining areas*

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### **Uplifts**

#### **NO CORD COVERS ACROSS CIRCULATION PATHS**

Electrical wiring and/or cords are only allowed within the public right-of-way when specifically requested and approved as a part of the R-Permit. But, even when electrical outlets are allowed, surface cords with or without cord covers are NOT allowed to cross circulation paths.



# ADA REQUIREMENTS

## Accessible Routes

*Accessible routes shall be provided to and through dining areas*

### Deck Requirements

- The on-street dining area shall be flush with the sidewalk.
- Changes in vertical height from the sidewalk are permitted up to a 1/4-inch maximum without an additional edge treatment. Changes in vertical height that are between 1/4-inch and 1/2-inch from the sidewalk shall be beveled with a slope not steeper than 1:2 (see Diagram 5).
- Changes in level, slopes exceeding 1:48, and detectable warnings **shall NOT be permitted** at:
  - Turning spaces
  - Clear floor or ground spaces
  - Minimum maneuvering clearances at doors and gates
  - Ramp landings

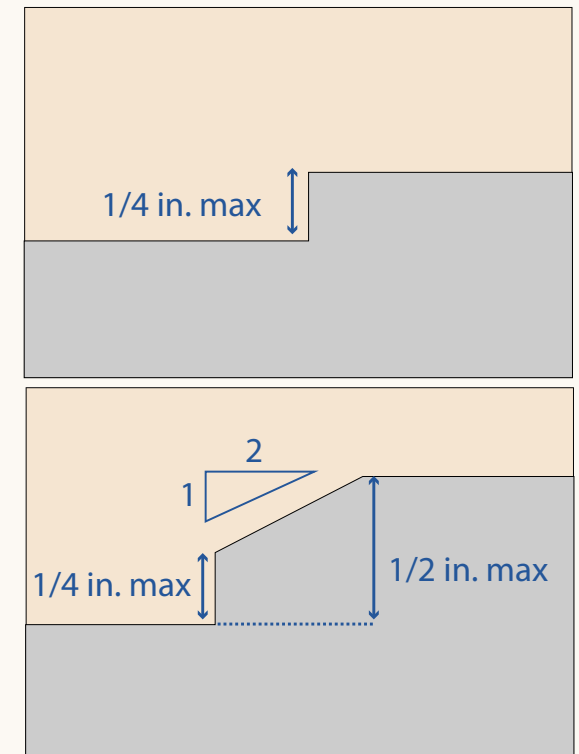


Diagram 5. Vertical Height Edge Treatment





# ADA REQUIREMENTS

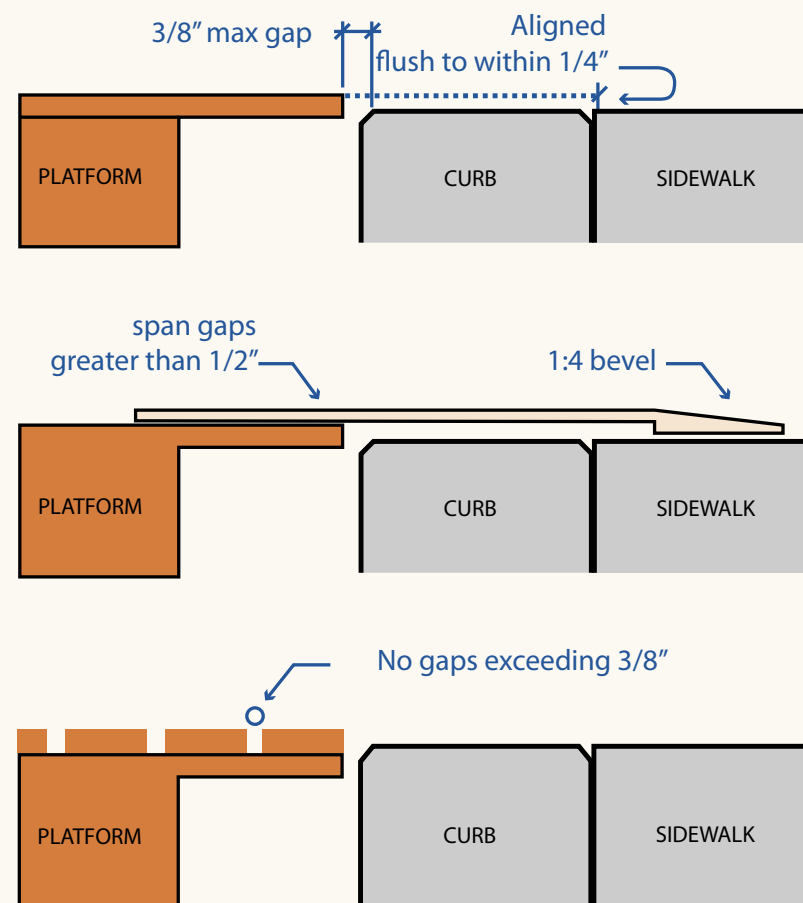
## Accessible Routes

*Accessible routes shall be provided to and through dining areas*

### Deck Requirements - *continued*

- Elongated openings shall be placed so the long dimension is perpendicular to the dominant direction of travel.
- The deck surface shall be stable, firm and slip resistant.
- Restaurants are responsible for making sure the deck is always clean and maintained.

Diagram 6. Horizontal Gap Edge Treatment





# ADA REQUIREMENTS

## Accessible Routes

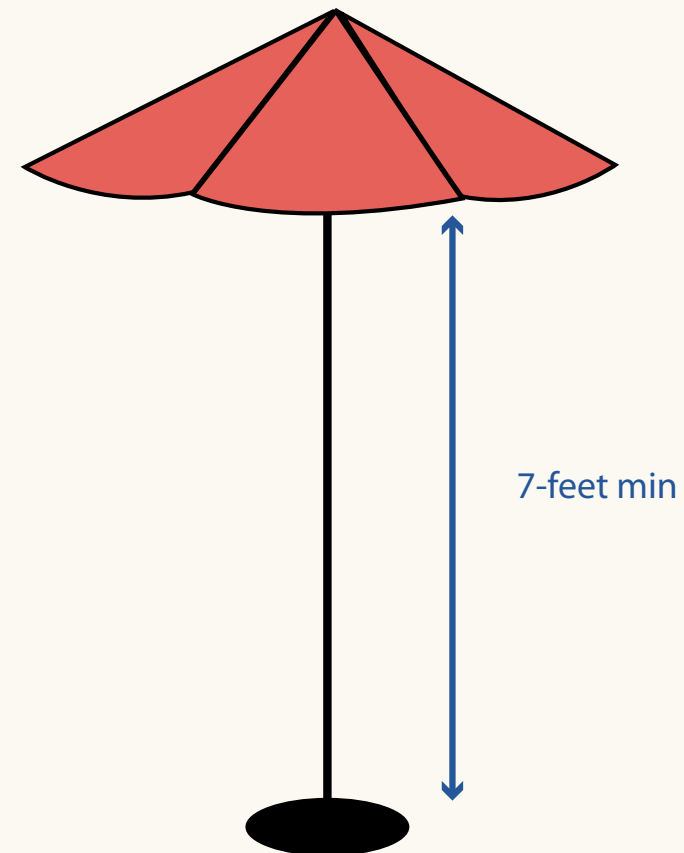
*Accessible routes shall be provided to and through dining areas*

### Vertical Clearances

The entire dining area and all circulation routes to and through this area shall have a minimum vertical clearance of 7-feet. This also includes umbrellas which must have a minimum of 7-feet of vertical clearance between the floor of the dining area and the shade canopy.

Clearances shall be measured from the widest point of the element (at the base if it's the widest, not the pole which is narrower than the base), or the lowest possible point of the element (i.e., umbrella with a canopy tilt, measure to the bottom of the canopy tilt).

Diagram 7. Vertical Clearance







# ADA REQUIREMENTS

## Dining Areas

Dining areas are defined as dining surfaces provided by the business to consume food or beverages.







# ADA REQUIREMENTS

## Dining Areas - Seating

*Amenities within the dining area shall be accessible*

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### **5% Minimum Seating and Standing Spaces**

- Where dining surfaces are provided for the consumption of food or drink, at least 5% of the seating spaces and standing spaces at the dining surfaces shall comply with:
  - Accessible knee clearance, toe clearance, clear space, and dining surface requirements.
  - Accessible tables and routes must be dispersed amongst all different types of seating areas and experiences (i.e., Al Fresco Private Property (indoor/outdoor), Sidewalk, and On-Street dining).
  - Examples that may contribute to a different dining experience include lighting, shade, decor, vibe, heating, cooling, and the types of tables/seating provided.



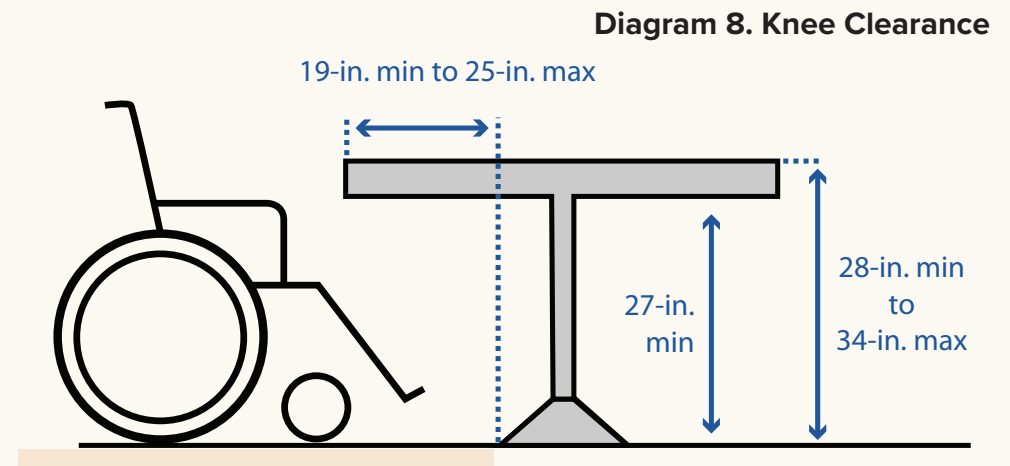
# ADA REQUIREMENTS

## Dining Areas - Seating

*Amenities within the dining area shall be accessible*

### Knee Clearance

- Space under a dining surface between 9-inches and 27-inches above the finish floor or ground shall be considered knee clearance and shall comply with:
  - Knee clearance shall extend 25-inches maximum under a dining surface at 9-inches above the finish floor or ground.
  - At dining surfaces that are required to be accessible, knee clearance shall extend a minimum of 19-inches deep at 27-inches above the finish floor or ground.
  - Knee clearance shall be a minimum of 30-inches wide.





# ADA REQUIREMENTS

## Dining Areas - Seating

*Amenities within the dining area shall be accessible*

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### **Toe Clearance**

- Space under a dining surface between the finished floor/ground to 9-inches above the finished floor, shall be considered toe clearance and shall comply with:
  - 25-inch maximum extension under the accessible dining surface.
  - 19-inch minimum extension under the accessible dining surface.
  - Space extending greater than 6-inches beyond the available knee clearance at 9-inches above the finish floor/ground shall not be considered toe clearance.
  - 30-inch minimum width.





# ADA REQUIREMENTS

## Dining Areas - Seating

*Amenities within the dining area shall be accessible*

### Clear Space

- Surfaces of a clear floor or ground space shall comply with:
  - Changes in level, slopes exceeding 1:48, and detectable warnings **shall not be permitted**.
  - 30-inch minimum by 48-inch minimum of clear floor or ground space.

### Dining Surface Height

- Tops of dining surfaces shall be 28-inches minimum and 34-inches maximum above the finish floor or ground.

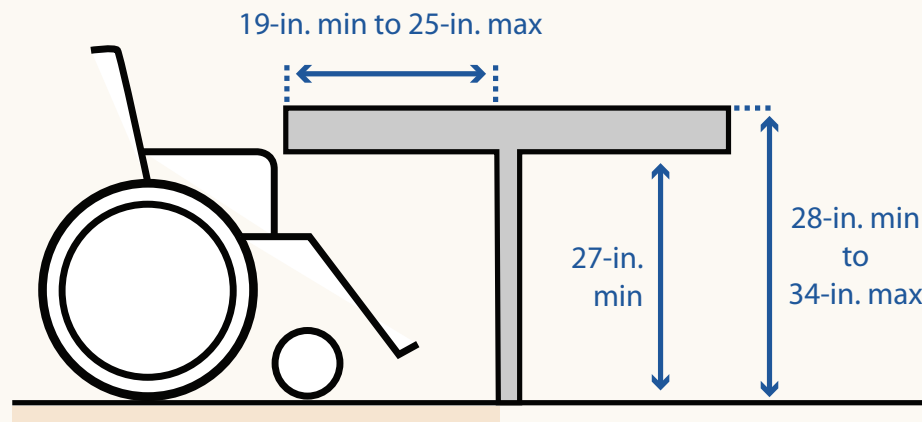
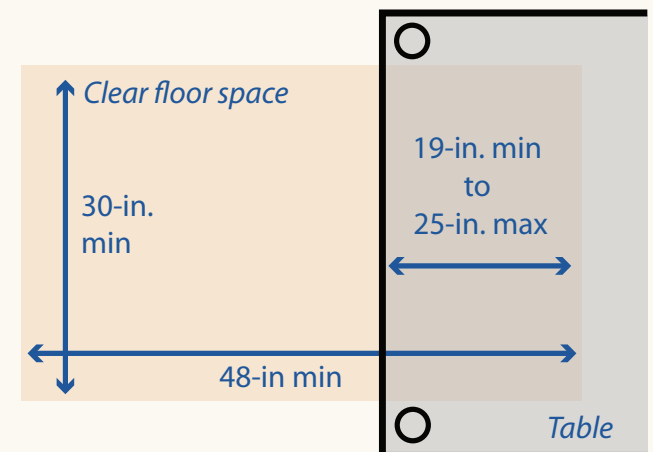


Diagram 9. Table Height





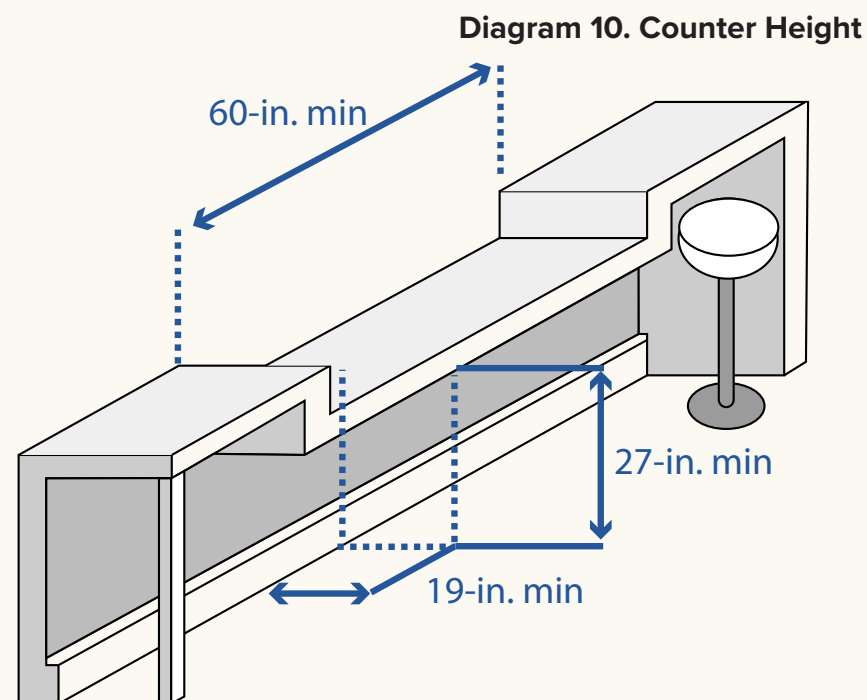
# ADA REQUIREMENTS

## Dining Areas - Seating

*Amenities within the dining area shall be accessible*

### Dining Surfaces Exceeding 34-inches in Height

- Where food or drink is served for consumption at a counter exceeding 34-inches in height, a minimum length of 60-inches must be accessible.
- Knee and Toe Clearances must also be applied.





# ADA REQUIREMENTS

## Dining Areas

*Amenities within the dining area shall be accessible*

### Protruding Objects

- Objects mounted on walls, partitions, columns, and other elements along circulation paths can pose hazards unless their projection is limited. Those with leading edges that are within cane sweep (27" high maximum) or that provide minimum headroom clearance (80" minimum) do not pose hazards and can protrude any amount.
- Objects with leading edges more than 27-inches high and not more than 80-inches high above the finish floor or ground are permitted to protrude no more than 4-inches maximum horizontally into the circulation path.

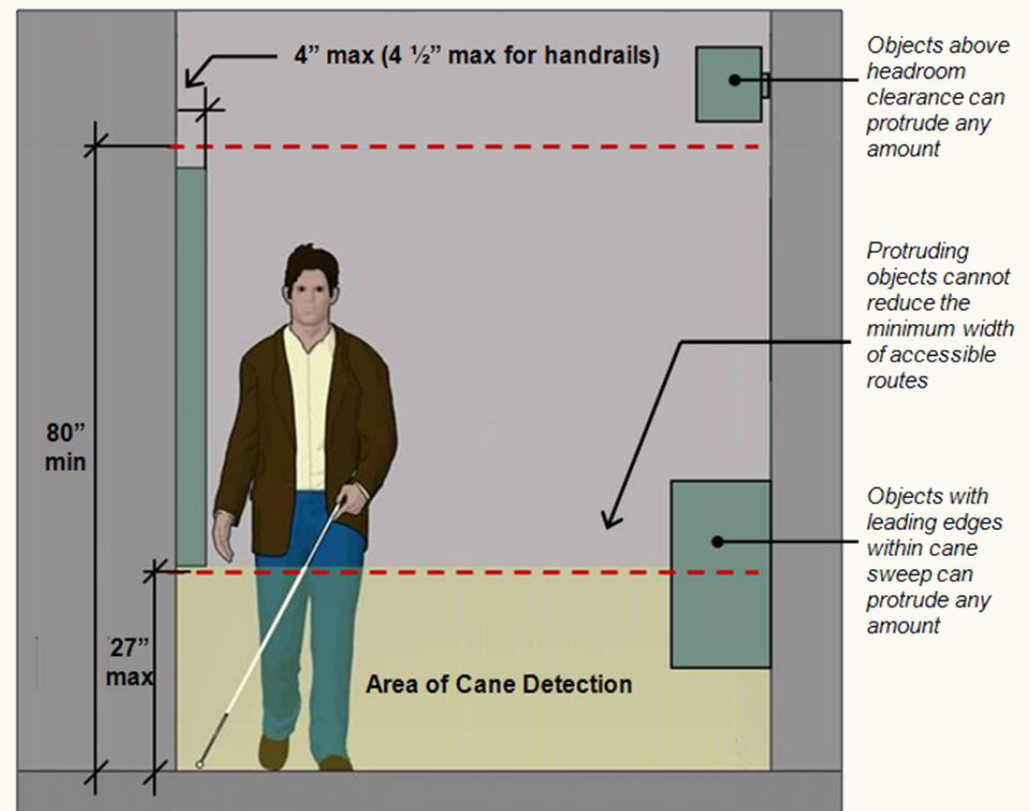


Diagram 11. Protruding Objects





# ADA REQUIREMENTS

## Dining Areas

*Amenities within the dining area shall be accessible*

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### **Access To Dining Amenities/Services**

- Tableware, dishware, condiments, food, beverage shelves and dispensing devices shall be located within accessible reach ranges, including:
  - Where a forward reach is unobstructed, the high forward reach shall be 48-inches maximum and the low forward reach shall be 15-inches minimum above the finish floor/ground.
  - Where a high forward reach is over an obstruction, the clear floor space shall extend beneath the element for a distance of not less than the required reach depth over the obstruction.
    - The high forward reach shall be 48-inches maximum where the reach depth is 20-inches maximum.
    - Where the reach depth exceeds 20-inches, the high forward reach shall be 44-inches maximum and the reach depth shall be 25-inches maximum.



# ADA REQUIREMENTS

## Dining Areas

*Amenities within the dining area shall be accessible*

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### **Access To Dining Amenities/Services - continued**

- Where a clear floor/ground space allows a parallel approach to an element and the side reach is unobstructed, the high side reach shall be 48-inches maximum and the low side reach shall be 15-inches minimum above the finish floor/ground.

Exception: An obstruction shall be permitted between the clear floor/ground space and the element where the depth of the obstruction is 10-inches maximum.

- Where a clear floor/ground space allows a parallel approach to an element and the high side reach is over an obstruction, the height of the obstruction shall be 34-inches maximum and the depth of the obstruction shall be 24-inches maximum.
  - The high side reach shall be 48-inches maximum for a reach depth of 10-inches maximum.
  - Where the reach depth exceeds 10-inches, the high side reach shall be 46-inches maximum for a reach depth of 24-inches maximum.





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