

LEGCO QUESTION No. 8**Key design requirements of staircases serving as means of escape
in Hong Kong and other countries**

Country/City	Maximum number of risers per flight	Maximum dimension of risers¹ (mm)	Minimum dimension of treads² (mm)
Hong Kong	16	175 (for internal staircase) 160 (for external staircase) 150 but minimum 75 (for schools) 150 (for places of public entertainment)	225 (for internal staircase) 280 (for external staircase) 250 (for schools) 280 (for places of public entertainment)
Singapore	18	175	225-250
United Kingdom	16	180-220	220-280
Australia	18	190	240-250
United States	21-36	180	280

¹ A riser is the vertical part of a step in a staircase. Generally speaking, the height of a riser should not exceed a certain maximum standard for the sake of safe access.

² A tread is the horizontal part of a step in a staircase measured from the face of one riser to the face of the next riser. Generally speaking, the depth of a tread should reach a certain minimum standard for the sake of safe access.