

Are you DDA Aware - Essential Points from the Approved Document M – Access to and use of buildings.

**DDA Compliance Guide Notes**

**Ramped Access: Design Consideration**

1.19 If site constraints necessitate an approach of 1 in 20 or steeper, an approach incorporating ramped access should be provided. Ramps are beneficial for wheelchair users, and people pushing prams, pushchairs and bicycles.

1.21 Ramps are also not necessarily safe and convenient for ambulant disabled people. For example, some people who can walk but have restricted mobility find it more difficult to negotiate a ramp than a stair. In addition, adverse weather conditions increase the risk of slipping on a ramp.

1.26 (f) Provisions: The ramp surface is slip resistant especially when wet, and of a colour that contrasts visually with that of the landings.

**Stepped Access: Design Consideration**

1.27 People with impaired sight risk tripping or losing their balance if there is no warning that steps provide a change in level. The risk is most hazardous at the head of a flight of steps when a person is descending.

1.29 Materials for treads should not present a slip hazard, especially when the surface is wet.

1.30 People should be able to appreciate easily where to place their feet by highlighting nosings and avoiding open rises.

1.33 All nosings are made apparent by means of a permanently contrasting material 55mm wide on both the tread and the riser.