

# Section 3

## GUARDS AND BARRIERS

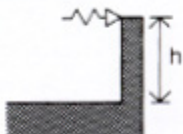
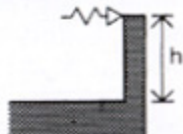
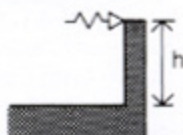
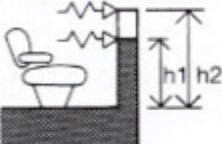


### Pedestrian guarding

**3.1 Siting:** Guarding should be provided where it is reasonably necessary for safety to guard the edges of any part of a floor (including the edge below an opening window) gallery, balcony, roof (including rooflights and other openings), any other place to which people have access and any light well, basement area or similar sunken area next to a building. Guarding should also be provided in vehicle parks, but not on any ramps used only for vehicle access. Guarding need not be provided to such places as loading bays where it would obstruct normal use.

**3.2 Design:** Any wall, parapet, balustrade or similar obstruction may serve as guarding. Guarding should be at least the height shown in Diagram 11. Guarding should be capable of resisting at least the horizontal force given in BS 6399: Part 1: 1996. Where glazing is used in the guarding, reference should be made to Approved Document N: Glazing – safety in relation to impact, opening and cleaning.

For further guidance on design of barriers and infill panels reference should be made to BS 6180: 1995 *Code of practice for protective barriers in and about buildings*.

Diagram 11 Guarding design

Building Category and location		Height (h)	
Single family dwellings	stairs, landings, ramps, edges of internal floors	900mm for all elements	
	external balconies and edges of roof	1100mm	
Factories & warehouses (light traffic)	stairs, ramps	900mm	
	landings and edges of floor	1100mm	
Residential, institutional, educational, office, and public buildings	all locations	900mm for flights otherwise 1100mm	
Assembly	530mm in front of fixed seating	800mm (h1)	
	all other locations	900mm for flights elsewhere 1100mm (h2)	
Retail	all locations	900mm for flights otherwise 1100mm	
Glazing in all buildings	at opening windows except roof windows in loft extensions, see Approved Document B1	800mm	
	at glazing to changes of level to provide containment (see Diagram 12)	below 800mm	