

BS 8300:2009

BS 8300:2009 Design of buildings and their approaches to meet the needs of disabled people - code of practice.

BS 8300:2009 provides guidance on good practice for the design of new buildings and their approaches to meet the needs of disabled people.

As a code of practice, this British Standard takes the form of guidance and recommendations.

The guidance in this standard covers a wide range of impairments and the use of the built environment by disabled people who may be residents, visitors, spectators, customers, employees, or participants in sports events, performances and conferences.

The 2009 version of BS 8300 picks up topics from the 2001 version and draws from interim research to expand on content. In addition to stair pitch, some of the most significant areas of development are:

- Slip resistance – new Annex E giving guidance on exact slip resistance values.
- Visual contrast – new Annex B giving specific values for light reflectance values (LRVs) for the BS 4800 range of colours.
- Doors and doorways – greater detail on location and closing furniture.
- Accessible bedrooms – increased recommendation for provision.

The BS8300 Code of Practice gives clear guidance on layouts, sizes, fittings etc. for almost all types of building except those which are intended for use exclusively by disabled people. It does not make specific recommendations relating to the use of buildings by children.

Basically it gives guidance and provides a code of practice as to what is "reasonable" - it provides some specific information and some general guidance.

More information is available from the Guild of Architectural Ironmongers "Technical Update No. 7" which is available at www.gai.org.uk.

Further information is also contained in the RIBA/CAE "Specifiers Handbook for Inclusive Design - Architectural Ironmongery" publication.

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