



Stair Parts Made Easy

Prepared by
Greg Gatlin,
General Manager

Stair System Anatomies

LEARN WHERE THE DIFFERENT COMPONENTS ARE USED ON POST-TO-POST AND OVER-THE-POST STAIRWAYS.



Post to Post Stairway Anatomy

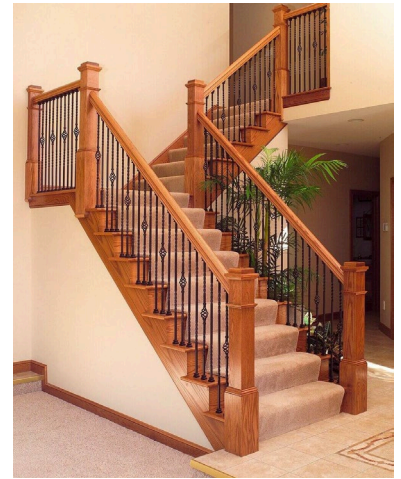
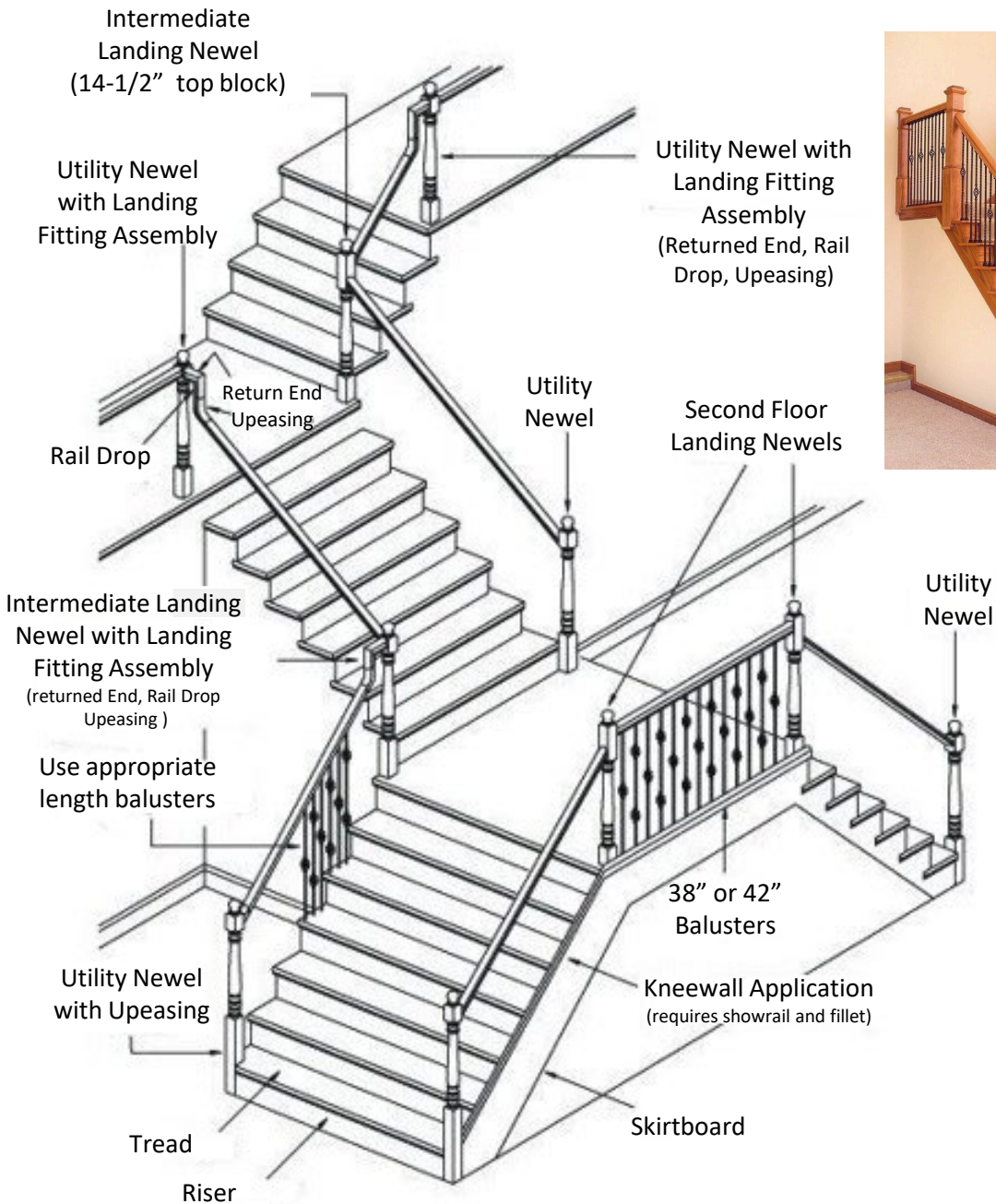
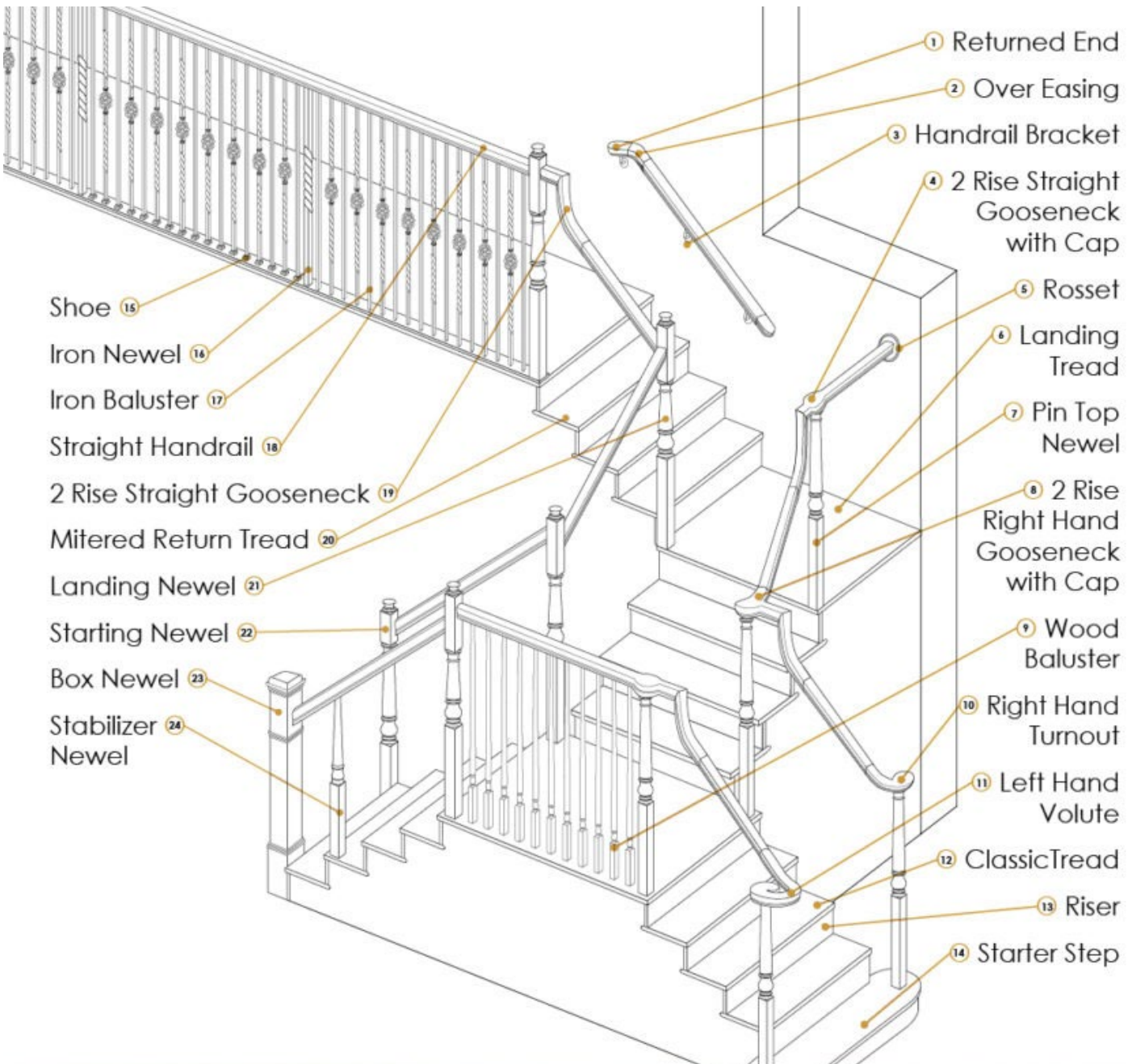


Photo courtesy of LJ Smith

Stair System Anatomies

LEARN WHERE THE DIFFERENT COMPONENTS ARE USED ON POST-TO-POST AND OVER-THE-POST STAIRWAYS.



Stair System Anatomies

LEARN WHERE THE DIFFERENT COMPONENTS ARE USED ON POST-TO-POST AND OVER-THE-POST STAIRWAYS.



Returned End

Used at the end of a stair handrail.



Over easing

Used to give slopped handrail a nice downward curve.



Handrail Bracket

This is a one piece mounting bracket that attaches the handrail to the wall.



2 Rise Straight Gooseneck w/ cap

This is a one piece mounting bracket that attaches handrail to the wall.



Rosette

This wall rosette is used to connect the handrail bracket to the wall.



Landing Tread

This tread is used on landing and balcony areas to give the appearance of a finished area.



Pin Top Newel

This newel post is used for 0 over-the-post railing systems.



2 Rise Right Hand Gooseneck w/ cap

This is an over-the-post gooseneck that sits on a pin top newel and gives a right turn.



Wood Baluster

This baluster is a wooden supporting post for the handrail.



Right Hand Turnout

This fitting sits at the bottom of the stairs and gives your handrail a left hand turn and a smooth up easing.



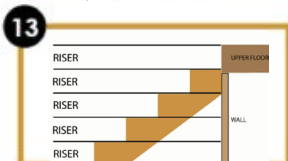
Left Hand Volute

This fitting goes at the bottom of the stairs usually over a starting step and gives a left hand swirl and a smooth up easing.



Thread

The horizontal steps at the staircase upon which individuals step.



Riser

The vertical element in a set of stairs, forming the space between a step and the next.



Starting Step

This is a decorative first stair that is wider than the others.



Shoe

This is a thin piece of wood that the balusters are installed into.



Iron Newel

This newel is made of iron and used in the over the post system.



Iron Balusters

This baluster is an iron supporting post for the handrail.



Straight Handrail

This is a solid piece of wood at the top of the newels and balusters.



2 Rise Straight Gooseneck

This fitting is used at the top of the stairs and gives the handrail enough vertical rise to meet the newel at the top of the stairs.



Mitered Return Tread

This tread has a small piece of trim on the end of the board so that the end appears to the mitered to match the face..



Landing Newel

This is the longest newel and used at landings or balconies.



Starting Newel

This is a shorter newel that is used at the start of the staircase.



Box Newel

This newel is a thick, square newel.



Stabilizer Newel

This newel is used as a pin top newel that adds support but doesn't require a cap.

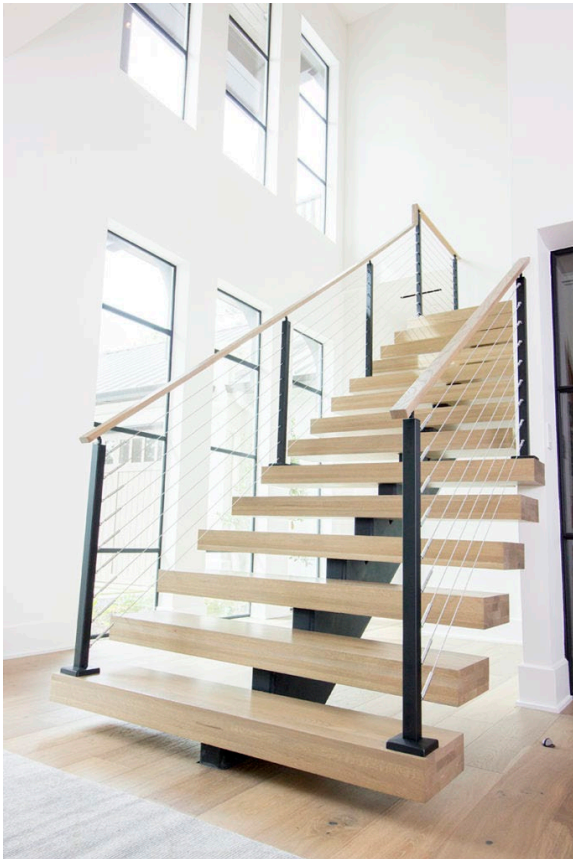
Selecting Your Stair System

STEPS FOR SELECTING A BEAUTIFUL SYSTEM

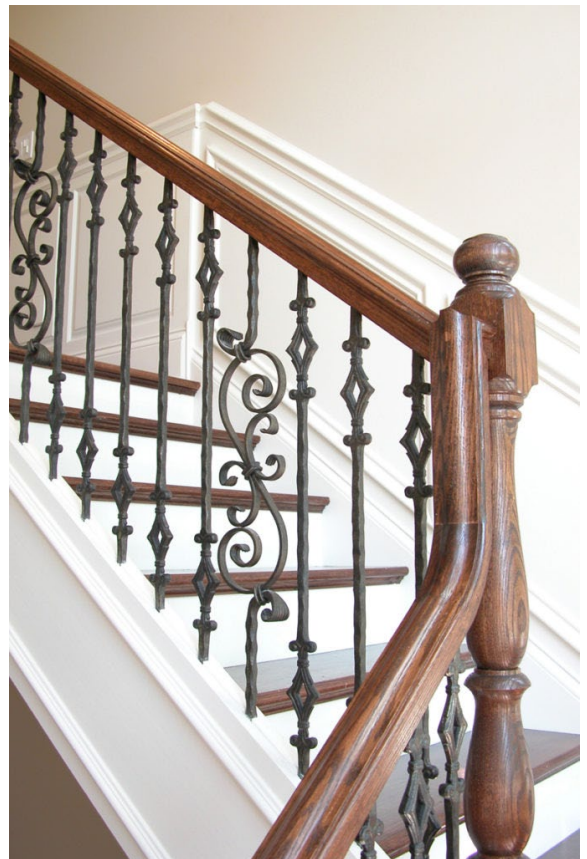


Step 1

To simplify the selection process, begin by choosing either the POST TO POST style or OVER THE POST style of stairway.



Post to Post



Over the Post

Selecting Your Stair System

STEPS FOR SELECTING A BEAUTIFUL SYSTEM

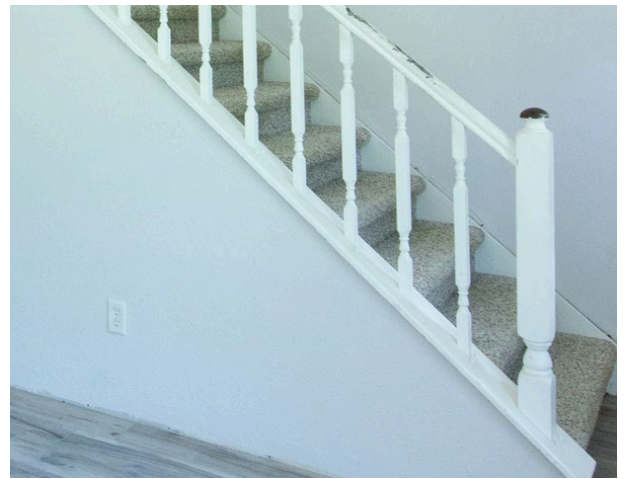


Step 2

After selecting a stairway style, there are a couple more style decisions that need to be made before selecting the stairway components. First, decide if the stairway will have Open Treads or a Knee wall and what tread treatment will be utilized.

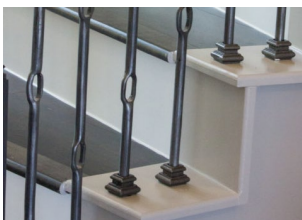


OPEN TREAD STAIR

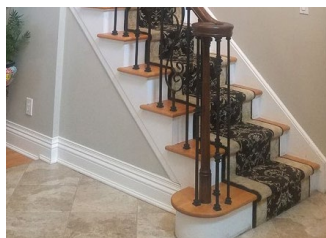


KNEEWALL STAIRWAY

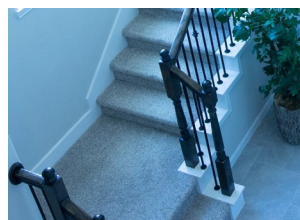
Below are examples of several tread treatments



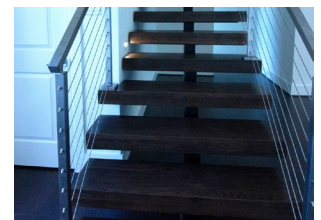
Open tread stairway, no carpet



Open tread stairway with center carpet



Kneewall stairway fully carpeted



Full treads and open risers

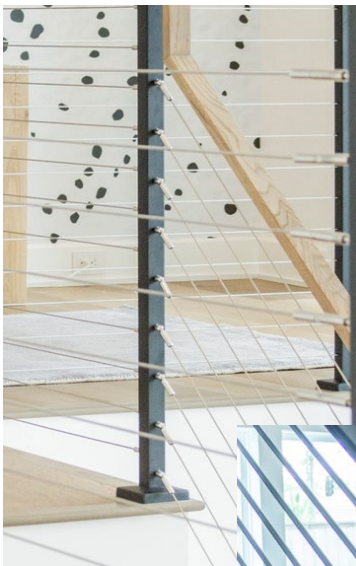
Selecting Your Stair System

STEPS FOR SELECTING A BEAUTIFUL SYSTEM

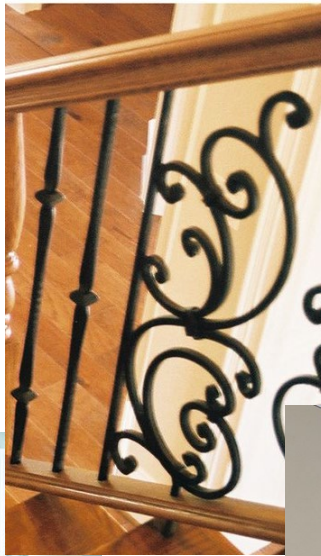


Step 3

Select an infill style: Stainless Steel Cable, Stainless Steel Tube, Panels, Iron Balusters, or Wood Balusters. When selecting a wood baluster style, you can choose either a Square Top or a Pin Top style. See available [Stainless-Steel Cable and Tube](#) or [Metal Panels](#) or [Iron Baluster Styles](#) or [Wood Baluster Styles](#).



Cable



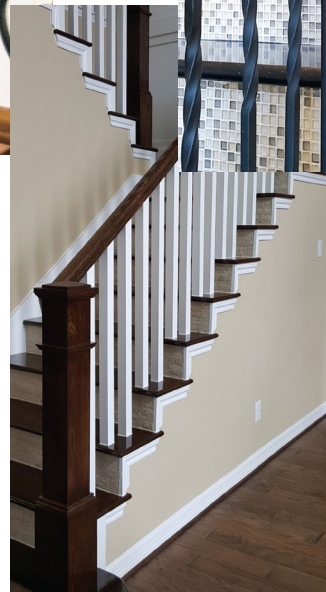
Panel



Iron



Tube



Wood

Selecting Your Stair System

STEPS FOR SELECTING A BEAUTIFUL SYSTEM



Step 4

Select a handrail profile from over **44 styles** available.



Step 5

Select coordinating newel post style from these categories: Box Newels, Over the Post Newels, Post to Post Newels, Cable or Tube System Wood Newels, or Cable System Metal Newels.



Selecting Your Stair System

STEPS FOR SELECTING A BEAUTIFUL SYSTEM



Rail Fittings

Explore the various handrail fittings. Fittings are primarily used on over the post applications. Some fittings can be use in post-to-post applications too.



Rail Types

Select a handrail profile from over 33 styles available.



6010 Handrail



6010 Plowed Handrail



6010 Bending Handrail



6040 Wall Rail



6002 Bending Modern Handrail



6084 Modern Handrail



6484 Modern Handrail



6284 Modern Handrail



7013 Over Easing Handrail Fitting



7014 90 Degree Up Easing Handrail Fitting

Stairway Terminology

TERMS YOU NEED TO KNOW



- **Centerline:** Invisible line running down the center of the Newel Posts, Balusters, and Handrail of a Balustrade system. Used in calculations to ensure all components line up properly.
- **Flight of Stairs:** Series of steps between floors and/or landings.
- **Half Newel Post:** Newel Post that has been cut in half vertically to put against the wall. Used where the Handrail meets the wall.
- **Handrail Height:** Handrail Height refers to the vertical distance from the Nosing of the Tread on the Rake, or Finished Floor Surface on a Landing or Balcony, to the top of the Handrail.
- **Baluster:** Decorative vertical member of a Balustrade system. Wood Balusters are usually 1-1/4", 1-5/8" or 1-3/4" square. Iron balusters are usually 1/2", 9/16" and 3/4" square or 5/8" round.
- **Bending Rail:** Handrail used in forming curved Balustrade systems. Bending Rail consists of several pieces that, combined, are the size and profile of the desired Handrail.
- **Box Newel:** Type of newel that is usually constructed like a box, often having a hollow center. Box newels are usually square rather than turned on a Lathe.
- **Circular Stairway:** Curved Stairway with no center pole.
- **Fillet:** Decorative wood strips used to fill the Plow between Balusters in Plowed Handrail and Shoerail.
- **Finish Floor to Finish Floor Height:** Distance from the surface of the finished flooring material at the bottom of the Stairway to the surface of the finished flooring material at the top of the Stairway. This is also the Total Rise of the Stairway.
- **Returned Tread:** Tread with Nosing on the open end(s) of the Tread.
- **Rise:** Vertical measurement from the surface of one Tread to the surface of the next Tread. For Total Rise, see Finish Floor to Finish Floor Height.
- **Run:** Horizontal measurement from the face of one Riser to the face of the next Riser. This is the depth of the Tread without the Nosing.