

# Problematic Railing System

## Revit 2013 Building Design Suite & Architecture

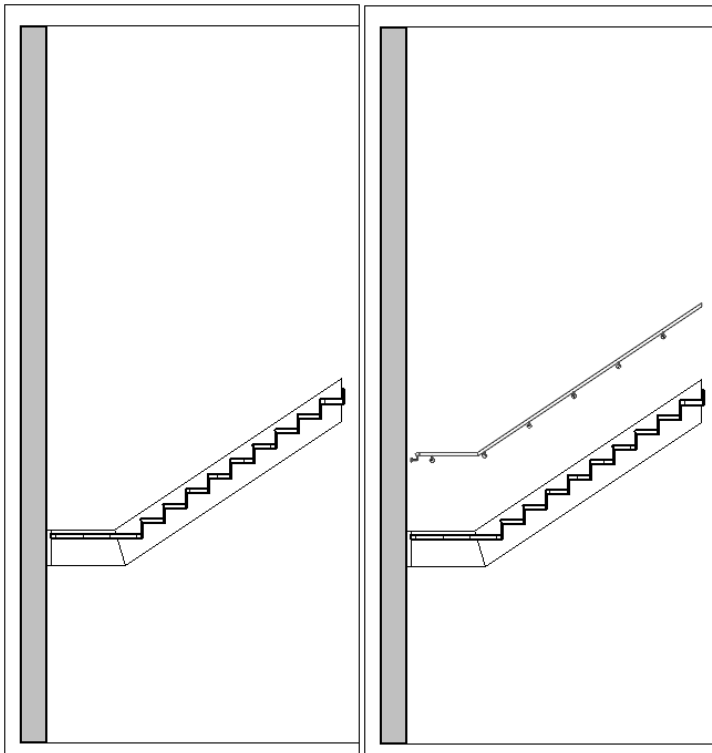
Railings displaying inconsistently within Revit. Probable Bug.

NB. This problem doesn't seem to occur in Revit 2014

### Inconsistent Display Behaviour for Revit Railing Systems

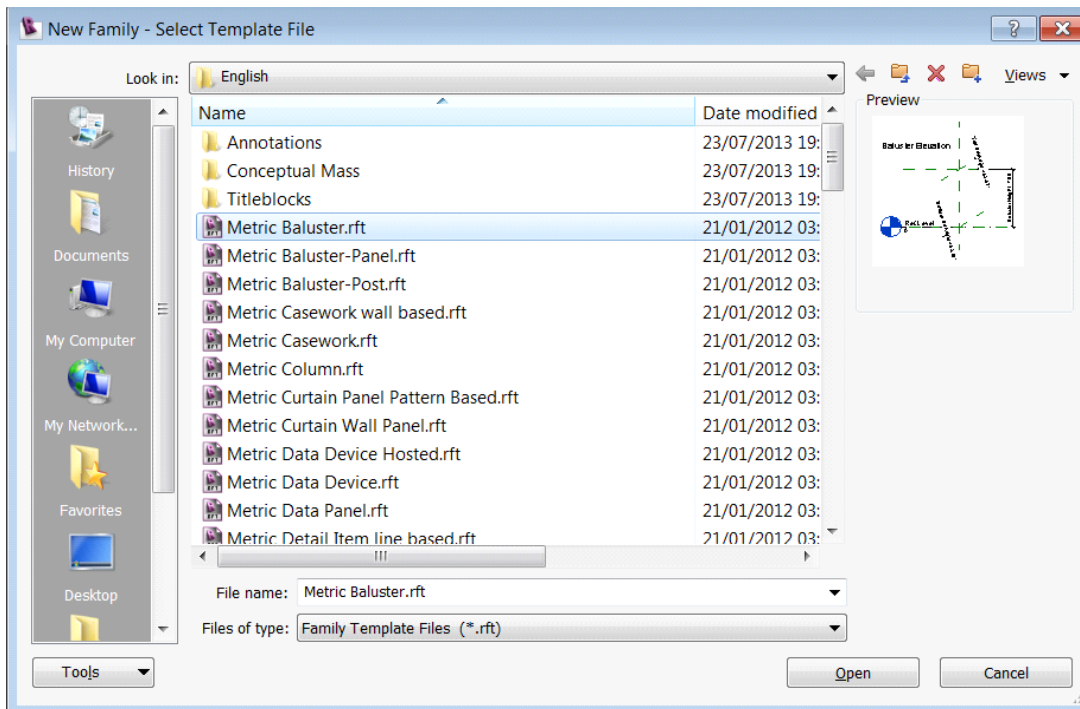
There seems to be a 'bug' with certain railing system families that lack a baluster component in Revit 2013. Okay this is not as bad as the file corruption problems we used to have with AutoCAD 13, but it is infuriatingly quirky nevertheless.

A common culprit is the 'Mounted Pipe Handrail 900mmV', where the railing will show in plan and 3d views but not always! and occasionally in section and elevation views. This problem of missing railings is actually very erratic in its behaviour and is quite annoying when you have deadlines to meet! If it doesn't appear in one section view try flipping the section and see if the railing system appears there!



Before and After with Mounted Pipe Handrail 900mmV example - typically in a section view

Its worth noting that this issue is NOT fixed with the latest update at the time of writing (Update 3) But the problem does seem to be absent from Revit 2014!



To fix this problem in Revit 2013 the user needs to create an empty Baluster component, load it into the project and assign to the railing family to get Revit to show the missing railing system components

You can do this by going to the;



REVIT 'R' MENU

NEW>FAMILY>Metric Baluster.RFT

SAVEAS 'Empty.RFA'

Load the empty baluster component into the affected project file

Edit the Railing family, selecting type properties and edit the Baluster placement, selecting the Empty family loaded in the previous step (rather the default 'NONE').

After hitting the Apply button the railings appear!!

The screenshot shows the 'Project Browser' on the left and the 'Main pattern' dialog on the right. The Project Browser is expanded to 'Railings' > 'Baluster - Steel Flat Upright - 50 x 12mm'. The 'Main pattern' dialog contains the following tables and controls:

Name	Baluster Family	Base	Base offset	Top	Top offset	Dist. from previous	Offset
1	Pattern st	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
2	Regular b	Empty : Empty	Host	0.0	Host	20.0	600.0
3	Pattern en	Baluster - Round : 25mm			N/A	600.0	N/A

Break Pattern at: Each Segment End    Angle: 0.000°    Pattern Length: 1200.0  
 Justify: Center    Excess Length Fill: None    Spacing: 0.0

Use Baluster Per Tread On Stairs    Balusters Per Tread: 1    Baluster Family: None

Name	Baluster Family	Base	Base offset	Top	Top offset	Space	Offset
1	Start Post	None	Host	0.0	Host	0.0	0.0
2	Corner P	None	Host	0.0	Host	0.0	0.0
3	End Post	None	Host	0.0	Host	0.0	0.0

Corner Posts At: Each Segment End    Angle: 0.000°

Buttons: << Preview    OK    Cancel    Apply    Help

TIP if you cannot see the railing system to edit the system rail properties, locate it under the Project Browser, and right click to access the edit option.

The screenshot shows the 'Project Browser' for 'SBRENU\_Railings.rvt'. The 'Railings' folder is expanded, and 'Mounted Pipe Handrail 900mmV' is highlighted in yellow.

- Baluster - Domestic
- Baluster - Rectangular
- Baluster - Round
- Baluster - Square
- Bracket - Wall Mounted Handrail
- Brise Soleil Arm
- Cast Iron Post
- Feature CrossWire Panel
- Glass Panel
- Glass Panel w fixings
- Handrail Type
- Newel - Domestic
- Railing
  - 2m Wide Brise Soleil - Angled
  - 3m Brise Soleil - Walkway
  - 3m Wide Brise Soleil
  - 900mm Steel Wire W Pipe
  - 1100mm Modern Steel CrossWire
  - Cast Iron - Key Clamp Railing
  - Commercial - Glass w Fixings
  - Commercial Glass Panel w Guardrail
  - Commercial Handrail - Glass Panel
  - Mounted Pipe Handrail 900mmV**
  - Residential - Spiral Stair - No Stringer
  - Residential Timber Newel and Spindles
  - Safety GuardRail
- Support - Metal - Circular