

Step-Free Tube Guide Specification

Transport for London Data Service

Version 1.0 (2013-08-16)

www.tfl.gov.uk/developers

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STEP-FREE TUBE GUIDE – DATA SPECIFICATION

1 OVERVIEW

The data contained in the ‘Step-Free Tube Guide Data’ provides the data in XML format that is presented visually and in accompanying notes in the [Step-free Tube Guide \(PDF 0.64Mb\)](#) (SFTG). The purpose of the SFTG is to give information about the level of step-free access that is available at London Underground, London Overground and DLR stations, beyond the basic information given in the standard Tube map. Its intended audience is primarily wheelchair users, but the information will be of interest to others who use step-free access routes as well. The data can therefore be used to reproduce the SFTG in varying electronic formats suitable for delivery by mobile applications.

This document provides the specification of the data contained in the XML SFTG.

2 NOTES

The SFTG is primarily a visual representation of the SFTG data much of which is translated into visual symbols. The dimensions of the step and gap for station platforms are given as a maximum and minimum distance in millimetres. The maximum and minimum distances are based on an average of measurements across the platform, except where there is a designated boarding point for wheelchair users, in which case the measurements relate to this area only. The rules for the translation of the data into these symbols are provided in the SFTG and reference should be made to the SFTG to gain a contextual understanding of the SFTG XML data.

2.1 Station accessibility and ‘access type’

There are approximately 360 stations in the SFTG XML data covering London Underground, London Overground and DLR stations. Of these there are approximately 180 stations with some form of step-free access to trains. Those with some form of step-free access are classified into 3 groups: i) step-free access from street to all platforms, ii) step-free access from street to some of the platforms at the station, and iii) step-free interchange only between some or all platforms at the station but no step-free access to or from the street. These types are all identified in the SFTG XML.

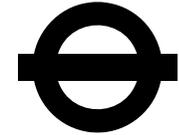
Stations which are ‘interchange’ only are depicted with a coloured ring on the SFTG. Refer to the notes on the SFTG for an understanding of how interchange information is depicted symbolically.

2.2 Specific Entrances

Some platforms are only accessible from specific entrances at the station. Stations that have specific entrance instructions are depicted on the SFTG by blue border around the station name and a red exclamation mark as a suffix to the station name. The entrance instructions for these stations are provided in the notes on the SFTG and the text is provided as a separate item in the SFTG XML data.

2.3 Step and Gap

The size of the *step* (vertical distance) between platform and trains is represented as three bands depicted as a coloured circles:



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- 0 – 50mm (0 – 2 inches)
- 51 – 120mm (2 – 4.7 inches)
- Over 121mm (4.7 inches)

The size of the *gap* (horizontal distance) between platform and trains is represented in three bands as a letter:

- A 0 – 85mm (0 – 3.3 inches)
- B 86 – 180mm (3.3 – 7 inches)
- C Over 181mm (7 inches)

The step and the gap dimension are represented in the SFTG as a composite symbol with the gap letter superimposed on the step symbol, for example:

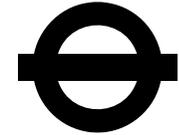
- A Step: 45mm Gap: 72mm
- C Step: 52mm Gap: 182mm
- C Step: 122mm Gap: 200mm

Note: the above is an example only and any combination of step and gap symbol is possible.

2.4 Manual Boarding Ramps

Stations where a manual boarding ramp is used to provide level access are depicted on the SFTG map with R.

If the station is London Overground then customers should pre-book assistance with the ramp.. If the station is London Underground then pre-booking is not required. There is more extensive information in the SFTG on points to be taken into considerations when a manual boarding ramp would be required including the contact number for London Overground when pre-booking.

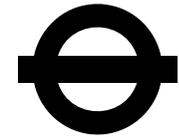


3 DATA SPECIFICATION

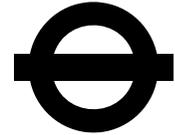
3.1 Station

Ref	Field	Description	Type	Mandatory / Optional / Conditional ¹	Values / Validation	Comments
1	Station	Station name as appears on the standard London Underground map.	text	Mandatory		
2	Access type	Defines the type of step-free access at the stations	text	Mandatory	Full; Partial; Interchange; None;	<p>Full all platforms have step-free access to and from the street.</p> <p>Partial some platforms but not all have step-free access to and from the street.</p> <p>Interchange Step-free access is restricted to interchange between lines only. These stations are depicted with a coloured circle on the SFTG map.</p> <p>None No step-free access to any platforms and no accessible interchanges.</p> <p>If this field value is 'none' then all other field values are set to blank</p>
3	Specific entrance required	Identifies whether arrival at the correct entrance for the direction of travel is required. If arrival at a specific entrance is required then the station name has a blue border on the SFTG map and entrance details are provided in the SFTG index section.	Yes/No	Mandatory	Yes; No	
3a	Specific entrance Instruction	Provides instructions about which entrances to use to enter the station.	text	Conditional	Free format text	Required if field 'Specific entrance required' = 'Yes'
4	Additional Information	Provides information additional to that provided in by the data entries for the station.	text		Free format text	
5	Blue Badge Car Park Spaces	Count of the number of Blue Badge car park spaces at the station.	Integer	Mandatory	Numeric	

¹ This only applies to station entries with a step-free access type with a value other than 'none'

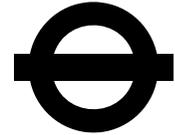


Ref	Field	Description	Type	Mandatory / Optional / Conditional ¹	Values / Validation	Comments
6	Taxi Ranks outside station	Identifies whether there are any Taxi Ranks outside the station.	Yes/No	Mandatory	Yes; No; 'blank'	If some of the interchange route is at street level, this may not be fully step-free
7	Accessible Toilet	Identifies whether there is an accessible toilet at the station	Yes/No	Mandatory	Yes; No; 'blank' text qualification to 'Yes'	
7a	Accessible Toilet Note	Provides additional information about accessible toilets at the station such as its location.	Text	Optional	Free format text	
8	Step-free access via lift	Identifies whether step-free access is dependent upon the use of a lift	Yes/No	Mandatory	Yes; No;	
9	Limited Capacity Lift	Indicates whether the lift available for accessibility is of limited capacity. Limited capacity means a maximum capacity of 8 – 12 people.	Yes/No		Yes; No;	
10	National Rail interchange	Identifies whether there is a step-free interchange with National Rail services at this station.	Yes/No/ Partial		Yes; No; Partial;	If some of the interchange route is at street level, this may not be fully step-free
11	Main Bus Interchange	Identifies whether there is a step-free interchange with main bus services at this station.	Yes/No		Yes; No;	If some of the interchange route is at street level, this may not be fully step-free
12	Airport Interchange	Identifies whether there is a step-free interchange with the airport at this station.	Yes/No		Yes; No;	If some of the interchange route is at street level, this may not be fully step-free
13	Pier Interchange	Identifies whether there are any riverboat services located within the vicinity of this station.	Yes/No		Yes; No;	If some of the interchange route is at street level, this may not be fully step-free
14	Emirates Air Line Interchange	Identifies whether there is a step-free interchange with the Emirates Air Line at this station.	Yes/No		Yes; No;	If some of the interchange route is at street level, this may not be fully step-free
15	Tramlink Interchange	Identifies whether there is a step-free interchange with Tramlink services at this station	Yes/No		Yes; No;	If some of the interchange route is at street level, this may not be fully step-free



3.2 Lines

Ref	Field	Description	Type	Mandatory / Optional / Conditional	Values / Validation	Comments
16	Station	Station name as appears on the standard London Underground map.		Mandatory		
17	Line	Name of line at the station.	text	Mandatory	Any of: London Underground line; National Rail London Overground; DLR; Emirates Air Line.	
18	Direction	The direction of the line at the station	text	Conditional	If given then one of: Northbound; Southbound; Eastbound; Westbound;	Optional for: London Underground London Overground DLR Emirates Air Line
19	Direction Towards	Provides additional information on the destination of this line and direction. This information is provided to assist people using this information, i.e. it is often easier to see what line to change to when at a station from its destination rather than just the direction it is travelling in	text	Conditional	If given then a valid London Underground station or combination of stations.	Optional for: London Underground London Overground DLR Emirates Air Line
20	Platform	Platform number	int	Conditional	Numeric	Mandatory for London Overground lines Optional for: London Underground DLR Emirates Air Line
21a	Step Min	Measurement in millimetres of the minimum height of the step between train and platform	int	Conditional	Numeric	Mandatory for London Underground lines and DLR except for stations with Level Access by Manual Boarding Ramp.

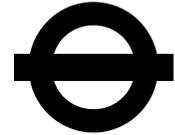


Ref	Field	Description	Type	Mandatory / Optional / Conditional	Values / Validation	Comments
		when boarding or disembarking underground trains at this station.				Optional for: London Overground Emirates Air Line
21b	Step Max	Measurement in millimetres of the maximum height of the step between train and platform when boarding or disembarking underground trains at this station.	int	Conditional	Numeric	Mandatory for London Underground lines and DLR except for stations with Level Access by Manual Boarding Ramp. Optional for: London Overground Emirates Air Line
22a	Gap Min	Measurement in millimetres of the minimum gap between train and platform when boarding or disembarking underground trains at this station.	int	Conditional	Numeric	Mandatory for London Underground lines and DLR except for stations with Level Access by Manual Boarding Ramp. Optional for: London Overground Emirates Air Line
22b	Gap Max	Measurement in millimetres of the maximum gap between train and platform when boarding or disembarking underground trains at this station.	int	Conditional	Numeric	Mandatory for London Underground lines and DLR except for stations with Level Access by Manual Boarding Ramp. Optional for: London Overground Emirates Air Line
23	Level Access by Manual Ramp	Identifies whether access from platform to train is by use of manual boarding ramp.	Yes/No	Mandatory	Yes; No;	'Yes' is depicted as a green 'R' on the SFTG map.
23a	Location of Level Access	Identifies the location of level access on the platform if there is only step-free access to some parts of the train.	text	Conditional	string	

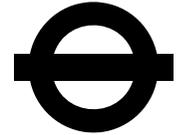
3.3 Step-free Line Interchanges

Ref	Field	Description	Type	Mandatory / Optional / Conditional	Values / Validation	Comments
24	Station	Station name as appears on the standard	text	Mandatory	Any station	

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Ref	Field	Description	Type	Mandatory / Optional / Conditional	Values / Validation	Comments
		London Underground map.				
25	Line	Name of line at the station	text	Mandatory	Any of: London Underground line; National Rail London Overground; DLR; Emirates Air Line.	
26	Direction	The direction of the line at the station	text	Mandatory	If given then one of: Northbound; Southbound; Eastbound; Westbound;	
27	Direction Towards	Provides additional information on a notable destination of this line and direction. This information is provided to assist people using this information, i.e. it is often easier to see what line to change to when at a station from its destination rather than just its heading direction.	text	Mandatory	London Underground station or combination of stations.	
28	Interchange Line	Name of line with which it is possible to interchange step-free at this station	text	Mandatory	Any of: London Underground line; National Rail London Overground; DLR; Emirates Air Line.	
29	Interchange Direction	The direction of the line at the station	text	Conditional	If given then one of: Northbound; Southbound; Eastbound; Westbound;	Optional for: London Underground London Overground DLR Emirates Air Line



Ref	Field	Description	Type	Mandatory / Optional / Conditional	Values / Validation	Comments
30	Interchange Direction Towards	As description of Direction Towards above.	text	Conditional		Optional for: London Underground London Overground DLR Emirates Air Line