

Universal Design Products

List of Potential Universal Design Features

Family and Consumer Sciences, Universal Design, The Ohio State University, fcs.osu.edu/resources/universal-design

This is a list of universal design features individuals may consider incorporating into their homes. Remember, not all features are necessary; rather, it is important to identify those features which meet the unique needs of your situation and/or family.

General Construction and Floor Plan

- Landscaped no step entry to home.
- No step access to kitchen, bathroom (with shower), bedroom, laundry.
- All doors: 36" wide (absolute minimum 32").
- 45" hallways.
- Thresholds ¼" high or none.
- Lever door handles.
- Keypad or remote control lock system.
- Handrails at all stairs (both sides).
- Porch covering.

Electrical

- Distribution panel 48" above floor.
- Outlets 18"-24" above floor.
- Phone jacks between 18"-24" above floor.
- Switches 42"-48" above floor.
- Rocker panel switches.
- Smoke detectors.
- Carbon monoxide detectors.

Lighting

- Ceiling lights in every room.
- Task lighting in kitchen, bath, laundry.
- Lighting from multiple locations.
- Rheostat switches
- Night Lights.

Flooring

- Low pile carpet.
- Slip resistant.
- Non-glare.



Bathroom (first floor)

Roll-in or walk-in shower.
 Grab bars in shower and /or tub area.
 Reinforced walls by toilet and tub/shower area.
 Shower seat (permanent or folding).
 Hand held adjustable showerhead. Seated area in vanity.
 Sink elevation 32".
 Lever faucet handles.
 60" diameter floor space.
 Door swings out.
 Emergency call system.

**Utility/Laundry**

Front loading washer and dryer.
 Raise washer and dryer 8".
 Shelving between 18"-48" from floor.

Closets

Adjustable height shelves.
 Multi-level shelves and rods.
 36" doors or wider.

Security

Exterior doors: peep hole (at accessible height) or view of porch from window.
 Emergency call system in bathroom.
 Intercom/camera system at front door.
 Motion activated outdoor lights.

Kitchen

Counter height: Multiple work heights (30", 36") or (34" counter height).
 At least one work height at 30" with no cabinet front (could be at table).
 Cook top (with potential for seated access).
 Lower wall cabinets to 15" above counter or provide tall cabinets (or pantry).
 D or T shape drawer handles.
 Single lever faucet handles.
 Wall oven located between 18"-24" above floor (32" ideal).
 Dishwasher elevated 8" above floor.
 Refrigerator: Side by side or freezer on the bottom.
 Front controls on appliances.

For more information, visit fcs.osu.edu/resources/universal-design