

Mobility Improvement Checklist



With a few modifications, a home can become easier to navigate. Safety and accessibility is improved by reorganizing and redecorating your home.

Tips and Tricks

- Accessible routes and pathways should have a minimum width of 36 inches, especially for those using wheelchairs or walkers.
- All doorways should have a minimum clear opening of 32 inches.
- At least one entrance to your home should be accessible for wheelchair users.
- When choosing an entry door, avoid selecting one with a significant threshold or surface height change, which may be inconvenient for wheelchair users.
- Doors in a series should either swing in the same direction or away from the space between the doors.
- Floors should be level and clear.
- Ramps are essential to connect different levels and to provide easier access.
- The maximum slope for a ramp should be no more than a 1:12 ratio (1-inch rise for every 12 inches).
- If modifying the entryway to your home, consider creating a sloped walkway instead of stairs.
- Where possible sinks should be wall-mounted with the rim no higher than 34 inches above the floor.
- Nineteen inches of clear floor space should extend underneath a wall-mounted sink.

What You May Need

Wider Doors

- Interior and exterior doors 36 inches wide allow an easier pass-through for wheelchairs.

Accessible Cabinets

- An array of cabinetry options and components are available via Special Order. When planning your kitchen remodel, consider options that will allow persons in a seated position to easily reach items in cabinets under the counter and overhead.
- Roll-under cabinetry allows accessibility from a wheelchair.
- Replace your old cabinets with new ones that offer pull-out tables to provide an accessible work or eating area.

Offset Hinges

- For doors along primary accessible routes, consider changing the standard door hinge to an offset hinge. Offset hinges are designed to swing doors completely and allow full use of the doorframe.

Accessible Sinks

- Wall-mounted sinks offer greater access for those in a wheelchair.

Ramps

- Ramps can improve home accessibility for people who cannot use stairs or need an easier method to enter or leave their home.