

## Universal Home Design Checklist

Is your home a “lifetime” home; one that will meet the needs of each family member for the duration of their life – regardless of age or physical ability? A home with universal design creates a safe environment with adapting features that will benefit all persons.

*Use the handy checklist below to determine how universal design friendly your home is, and what can be done to make it more so.*

	YES	NO
The kitchen is located near the door where groceries are brought into the house		
The kitchen floor has a non-slip surface; rugs are non-slip or are attached to the floor using one-sided tape		
There is a fire extinguisher in the kitchen in an easy-to-reach place		
There is at least one kitchen counter that is only 36-inches high with knee space underneath		
Cabinets have u-shaped handles; lower cabinets have slide out shelves		
There is a Lazy Susan to reach difficult to access things stored on deep shelves		
Drawers have special easy-slide hardware		
Counter edges are a contrasting color and are rounded		
Counters are at a height that can be used while sitting		
Counters have leg space underneath		
Sink hot and cold water controls are located on the side		
Sinks have lever faucet handles, and anti-scald devices		
Sinks have leg space underneath		
The refrigerator is a side-by-side model; regular refrigeration on one side, and freezer space on the other		
There is a wall oven at a convenient height		
Oven doors swing to the side		
The microwave has a touch pad, with a heat-resistant counter nearby		
Appliances have push-button controls		
The stove has clearly marked controls located on the front		
Traffic areas throughout the house are wide enough for wheelchair use		
All doors have lever handles		
All light switches are easy push rocker style		
There is a garbage disposal		
There is a trash compactor		
There is a bedroom on the ground floor		
There is a walk-in closet wide enough for a wheelchair		
The shower is a walk-in		
There is a hand-held shower head		
There is a bath seat in the shower		
There is enough space to transfer from a wheelchair to the toilet		
There is a bathroom on the ground floor		
There are grab bars near the bathtub and toilet		
There is a slip-proof transfer bench near the bathtub		
There is an elevated toilet or toilet seat		
There is a phone in the bathroom		
Phones have a high volume ring and large keypads		

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Smoke detectors have strobe lights		
Electrical outlets are 27-inches off the floor		
The house uses increased wattage light bulbs, with uniform lighting throughout		
Steps are a contrasting color from the surrounding area		
Stairways have handrails on both sides		
Stairways have a slip-resistant surface		
Doorways are wide enough for a walker or wheelchair		
Floors are slip-resistant		
Area rugs are slip-proof, or held in place with double sided tape		
Carpet has low pile, and a firm pad		
The front door features a ramp with handrails on both sides		
There is an automatic garage door opener		
The driveway is smooth, but not slippery		

### **Notes:**