# Accessibility Modifications In The Home



















#### **ASSIST Inc**

ASSIST Inc is an independent nonprofit Community Design Center founded in 1969 by the Graduate School of Architecture at the University of Utah and the Utah Society of the American Institute of Architects.

For over 45 years ASSIST has been providing architectural design, community planning and development assistance to nonprofit and community groups; housing repair for low income households; and accessibility design assistance to people with disabilities.

#### How to Use this Guide

This photo guide is designed to help illustrate practical home modifications for accessibility, safety in the home and prevention of falls. The photos provided are of well designed solutions for a variety of users and needs.

We recommend looking through the entire book to better understand the various options before beginning any project. You may discover ideas that would be more economical or effective for your individual needs.

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Designed and published June 2016 by

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### Standard Accessibility Dimensions



Standard Ramp - 1:12 (Maximum 30 foot ramp run)

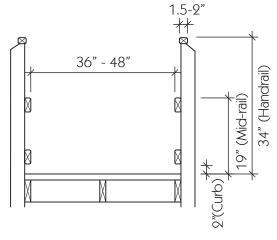
"A foot of ramp for each inch of rise"

Ramp Slope

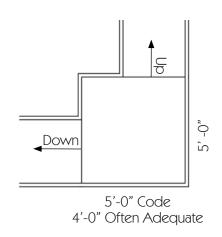


Handrails & landings are optional but are not required on a 1:20 slope

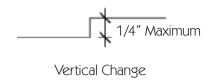
Sloped Pathway



Ramp Cross Section



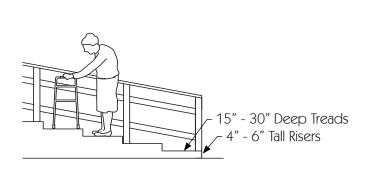
Ramp Landing



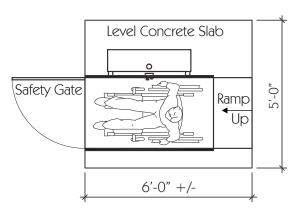
1/2" Maximum

Beveled Threshold

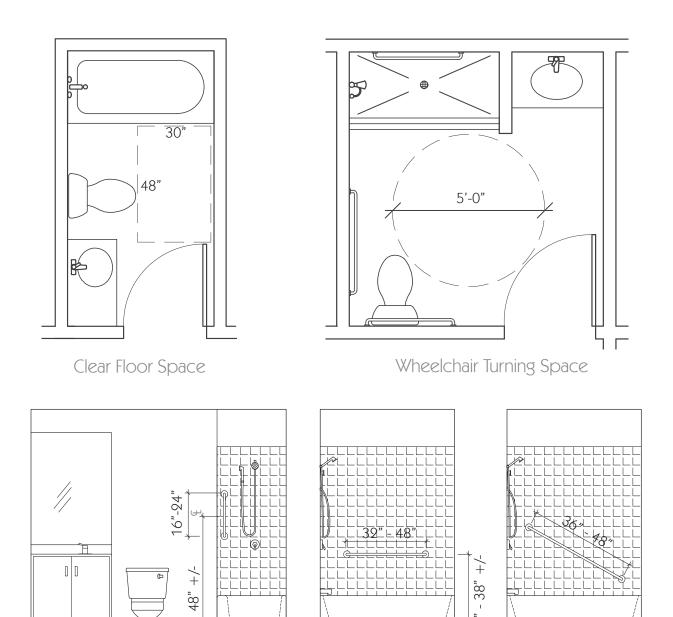
Door, Roll-in Shower and Other Thresholds



Low Rise Steps



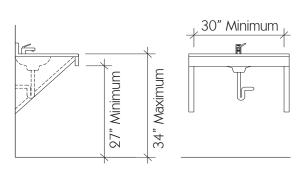
Vertical Platform Lift



NOTE: Grab bar orientation, length and height always to user preference; 1-1/4" diameter bars often preferred

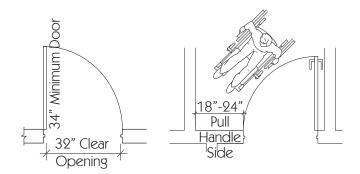
Typical Grab Bar Placement

Horizontal



Vertical

Roll-Under Sink and Counter



Doorway Opening & Maneuvering Space

Diagonal

# Home Entry

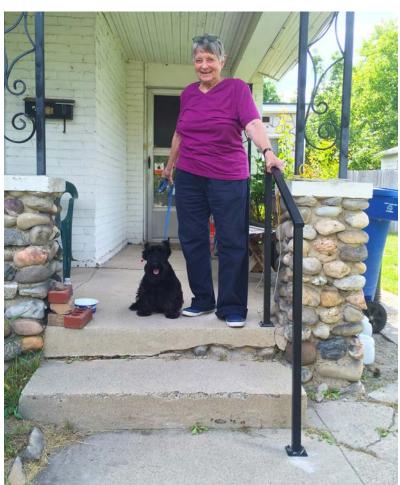
#### Railings











# Home Entry Wedge Ramps









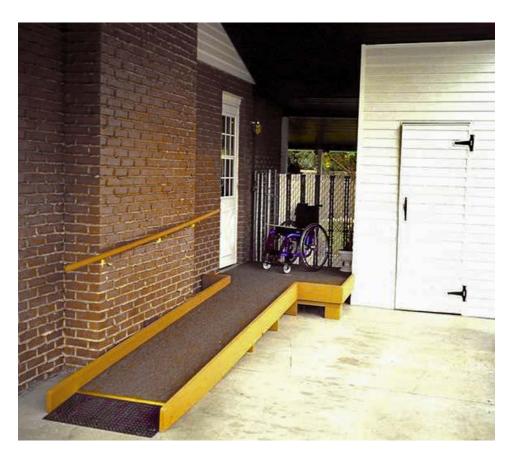


# Home Entry

#### Ramps









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# Home Entry

#### Ramps



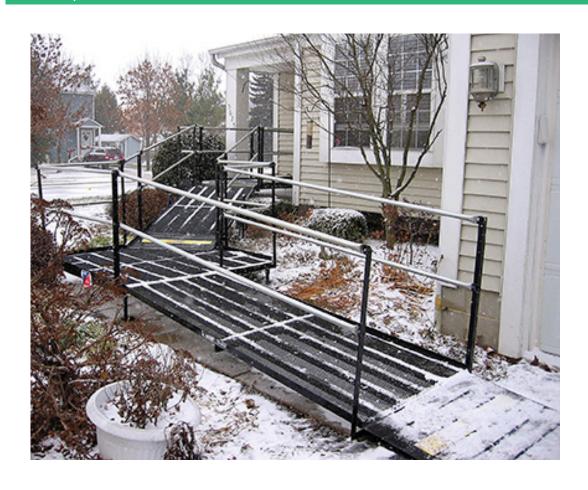






# 13 Home Entry

#### Ramps







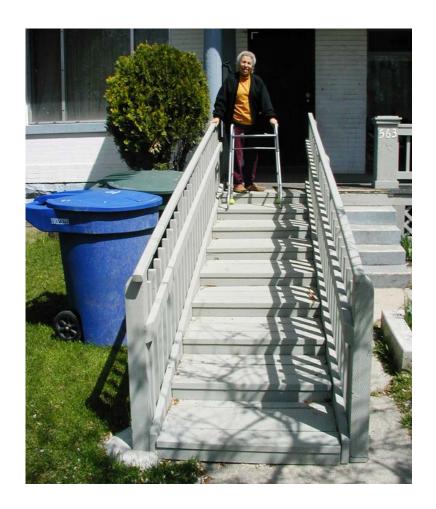


# 15 Home Entry

#### Low Rise Steps









# Home Entry Vertical Platform Lifts (VPL)









#### Doors & Swing Clear Hinges

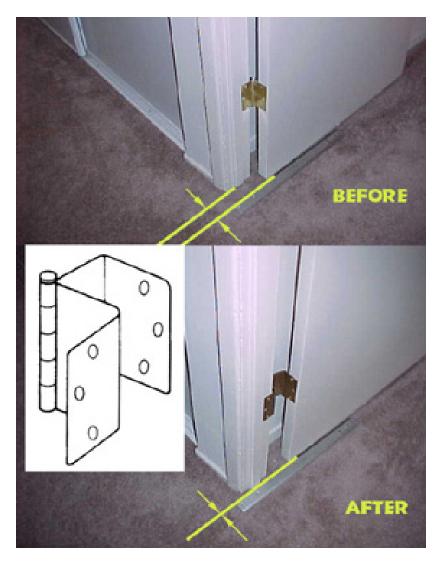


**36** inch wide interior door

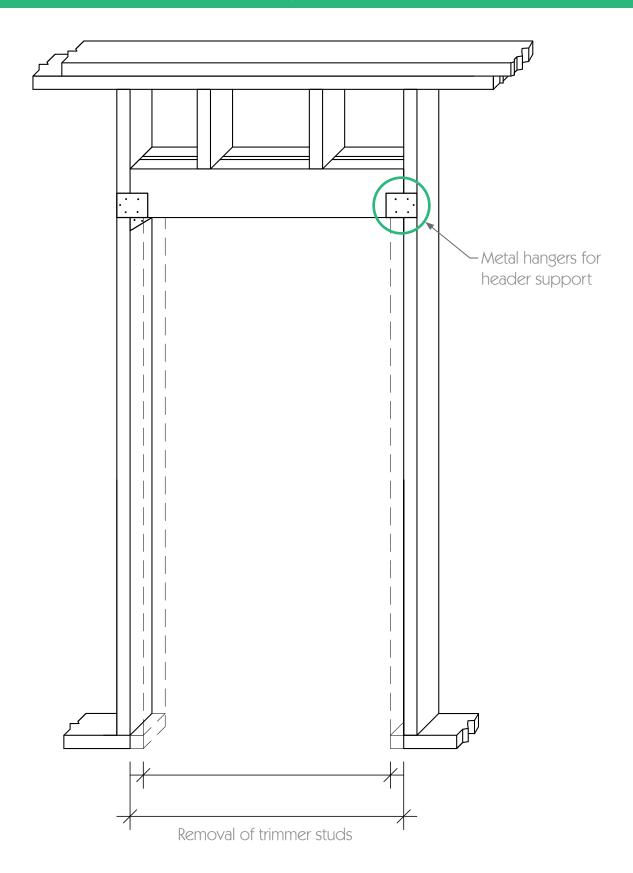


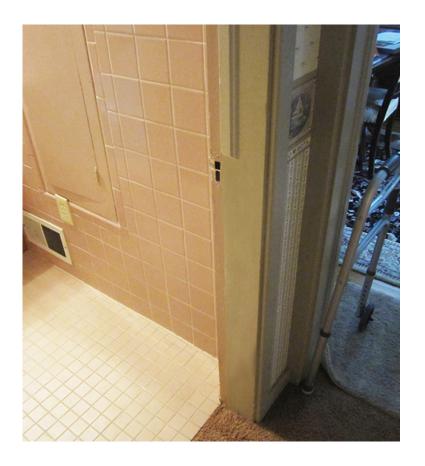
28 inch wide bathroom door

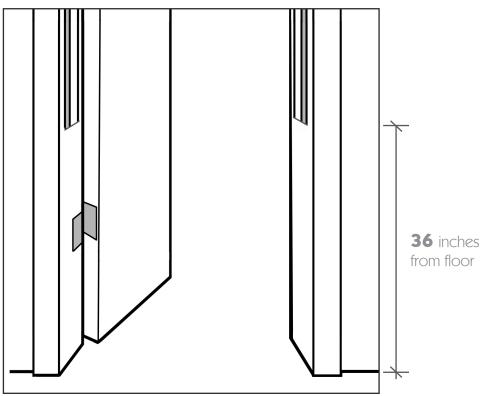




#### Door Frame Modifications







#### Stair Glide







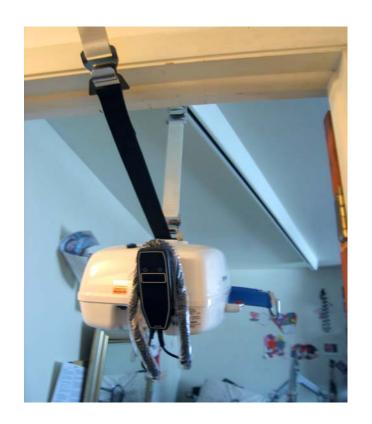




#### Track Systems & Lifts





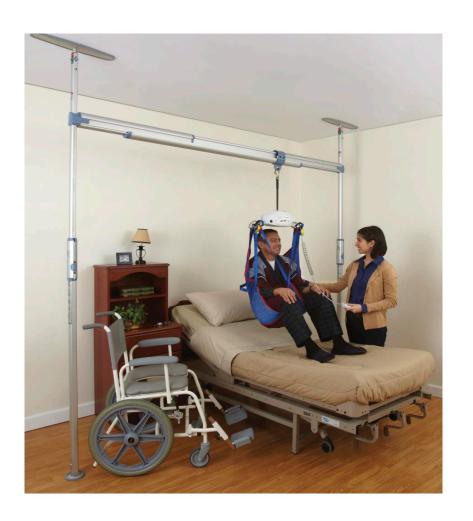




#### Track Systems & Lifts









#### Interior Handrails & Automatic Door Openers





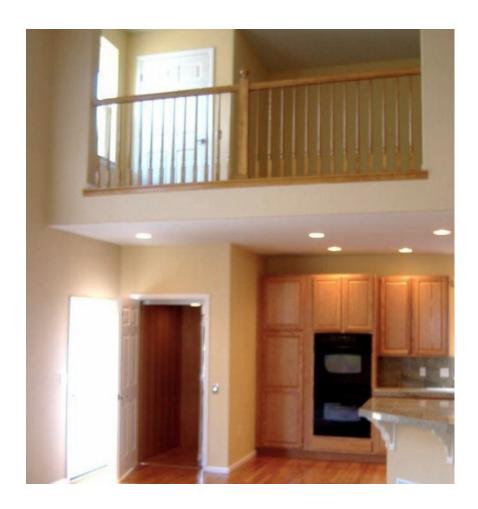




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# Interior Access

#### Interior Elevators









# **33** Bathroom

#### Grab Bars







# 35 Bathroom

#### Grab Bars









### High Rise Toilets/ Risers & Portable Showers



**18**+/- inches from floor

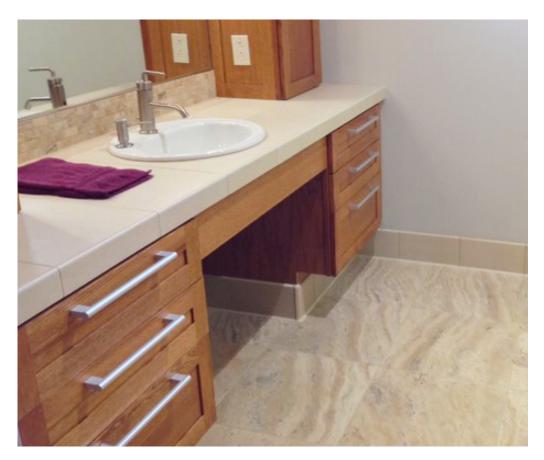




# Bathroom Roll-under Sinks





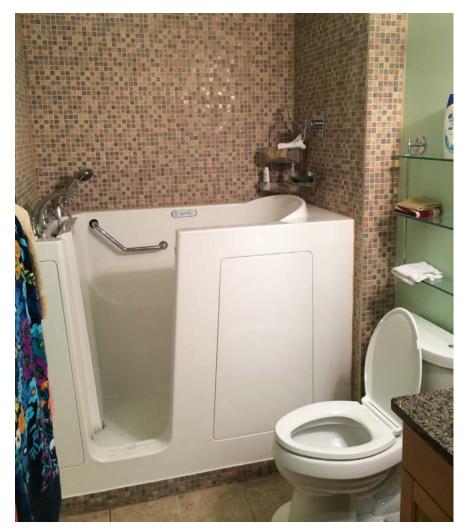


### Tub Cut & Walk-in Tub









### Curb Shower







### Roll-in Shower





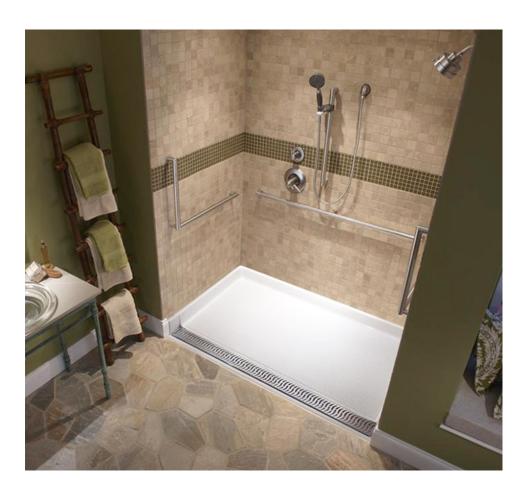




### Fixed & Hand-held Shower Wand









### Shower Chairs & Benches









## Sliders & Shower Commode Chairs





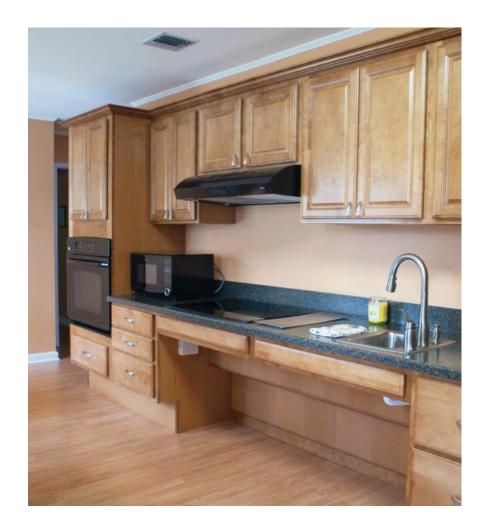


## 53 Kitchen

### Counter Tops & Cook Tops









## 55 Kitchen

### Oven/Breadboards & Drawers









**57** 

# Aging In Place Features Home Owners Checklist

This checklist can help identify health and safety concerns in your home. If you answer "NO" to various items on the list, consider improvements to help you age in place, by staying safely in your home and preventing falls.

ENITEN AVIANCE	y E S	NO
No-step entry into your home Railings on exterior steps, both sides preferred Clear paths of travel into your home with no tripping hazards Doorbell and mailboxes easy to access		
MAIN FLOOR LIVING Accessible full bath Main floor bedroom or adaptable space Two clear safety exits on the main floor		
INTERIOR DOORS, HALLWAYS AND THRESHOLDS Low thresholds and doorway transitions Lighted hallways Doorways wide enough for a wheelchair and / or walker Interior doors with lever handles and swing clear hinges (swing clear hinges increase doorway passage space by 2 inches)		
STAIRWAYS Stairways with secure hand rails on both sides Stairways well lit Convenient layout for stair glide		
Non-slip surface or tub mat in bathtub or shower Grab bars in bathtub or shower area Grab bars alongside toilet High rise toilet (increases standard height by 2 inches) Slip-resistant floor, free of tripping hazards Safe access into and out of bathtub or shower Fixed and hand held shower wand Bathroom has operable window or exhaust fan Bathroom has a night-light		

		УES	NO
# # #	KITCHEN  Adequate counter space  Kitchen appliances safe and easy to use  Easy access to storage space for frequently used items  Cook top and oven controls safe and easy to use		
	FLOORING Slip-resistant flooring throughout the home Carpet is free of tripping hazards, tears, wrinkles and or de-threading Rugs have slip-resistant backing or double faced adhesive		
	ELECTRICAL AND LIGHTING  Convenient location of thermostats and other controls  Electrical outlets easy to find and use  Light switches at the entrance to every room, hallway and stairway		
	HEATING, COOLING AND VENTILATION  Supply and return air vents free of obstruction  Energy efficient HVAC unit  Smoke alarms and carbon monoxide (CO) detector in the home  Operable windows for cross ventilation and fresh air  Hot water heater set no higher that 120 degrees fahrenheit  Home free of stale or musty odors  Furnace filters are convenient and easy to change  (furnace filters should be replaced at least every other month)		
	LAUNDRY Washer and dryer at an accessible location in the home Washer and dryer at an accessible height; settings are easy to read Convenient counter space		
	CLUTTER Rooms, hallways and exits free of clutter and unnecessary objects Floors and stairs free of tripping hazards		

### Resources

#### **ASSIST Inc - A Community Design Center**

www.assistutah.org (801) 355 - 7085

Provides emergency home repair & design assistance for safety and accessibility

#### Center for Inclusive Design & Environmental Access (IDEA)

idea.ap.buffalo.edu

(716) 829 - 5902

The Center is active in basic & applied research, architectural design, community service and education. Programs focus on home modifications, functional assessment and universal design

#### **Concrete Change**

www.concretechange.org

Advocates visitability in all homes--no-step entry, usable bathroom & minimum 34" doors

#### **Utah Division of Services for People with Disabilities (DSPD)**

dspd.utah.gov

(801) 538 - 4200

DSPD provides a wide variety of services intended to help people with disabilities participate more fully in their communities and lead more self-determined lives

#### Salt Lake Valley Habitat for Humanity

www.habitatsaltlake.com

(801) 263 - 0136

Provides affordable housing, home repairs & home improvement thrift store (ReStore)

#### **Utah Independent Living Center (UILC)**

www.uilc.org

(800) 355 - 2195

Provides services such as assistive technology & education for independent living

#### Salt Lake County - Green and Healthy Homes Initiative

saltlakecountyleadsafe.org

(801) 468 - 4892

Provides free home assessment for health related issues (such as asthma); Provides lead paint remediation to low-income households with children under 6

#### **Utah Center for Assistive Technology (UCAT)**

ucat.usor.utah.gov

(801) 887 - 9533

Provides assistive technologies for people with disabilities