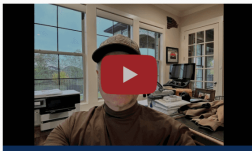




5 Aging-in-Place Remodeling Ideas for Your Home

Studies have shown that the majority of older Americans prefer to age in place. However, much of the existing housing is not suitable for the elderly. In the home, many senior home modifications are associated with bulky grab bars, oversized shower seats, and unattractive mobility devices.

Although this often leads to a fear of what follows, aging-in-place homes are a simple and effective way to maintain independence and self-sufficiency while addressing the needs of senior citizens. With today's universal design principles, comfort and style can coexist harmoniously with functionality and safety. Here's how!



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1. Accessible doors & entrances

Many factors determine how wide an adult wheelchair is from wheel to wheel, including the size and structural design. Despite ADA's (The Americans with Disabilities Act) requirement for 32-inch doors, wheelchairs often require wider doorways. Moreover, there might be a need for a sharp turn, making a wider passage of up to 40 inches the best choice.

To preserve the appearance of their front entrance, homeowners may consider setting up a ramp in their garage. Adding a ramp to the sides of the house is another option.

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2. Walk-in or roll-in shower

The idea behind a walk-in shower is to make it easier for people with balance impairments to access it. As opposed to the tub wall, walk-in showers feature a lip that is 3.5 inches high - making it much easier for seniors to get in and out of the shower. However, this is not the same as a roll-in shower, which is lip-free. This way, it blends naturally with the bathroom floor so that wheelchairs can access it.

It may be a good idea to consider a built-in shower bench, as well. Besides providing a sitting option, it also offers support, which is especially important when a person has mobility issues or is recovering from an injury.

Gallery



3. Flooring choices

The materials you use in your home should be based on your accessibility needs, especially when it comes to flooring. For instance, bathrooms in particular require slip-resistant solutions. However, you should also take into consideration how durable the material is, as softer materials tend to deteriorate faster. The options are endless: hardwood flooring, carpet, tiles, and laminates that resemble wood, while offering greater strength and resistance than softwood.

4. Smart appliances

If you're looking to make everyday tasks easier to perform, assistive technologies offer plenty of options. It's even possible to simplify demanding tasks with smart appliances. As required by ADA, they should be well-connected, easy to use, and with easily accessible controls. Also, recent technological advancements include sensors that turn lights on and off automatically or integrate an auto-powered stairlift, allowing you to ride up and down stairs comfortably and conveniently.

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5. Accessible countertops, vanities and toilets

Toilets should be easy and uncomplicated. Yes, there are standards, dimensions, and other requirements for ADA compliance, but the concept should be safe and easy. For access and use of bathroom vanities, these areas should be easy for the homeowner to be in a wheelchair, walker or just not steady. Roll-in access to a bathroom vanity where the chair fits completely under the countertop and access to storage areas is a must. The user should not have to reach distances in order to access their cosmetics. Clearly, easily accessible toilets are a must. Be it comfort height or grab bars and/or raise be mounted for easy access.

Contact Elite Remodeling for innovative remodeling ideas

An experienced professional knows how to combine practical solutions with imaginative ideas. Regardless of whether you need additional space in your bathroom for a wheelchair or you're looking for an attractive and stylish aging-in-place solution, Elite Remodeling has got you covered! We're here to improve the quality of life for your aging family members. Our team of skilled and experienced professionals are ready to deliver accessible solutions tailored to their specific needs. Reach out to us today and get the most out of the upcoming home modifications!

