

INTRODUCTION

According to the latest U. S. census, 3 million Americans use a wheelchair full-time. Whether you are a wheelchair user or a senior who wants to age-in-place, the following Websites can help start the process if you are considering modifying your home to make it accessible for independent living. If the Web addresses are too long for you to type, just Google the titles in quotations! These sites were chosen for their helpful information; costs may be outdated. You need not purchase items, services or products from them. If you have any questions or need more information, please ask the reference librarians for assistance.

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Reference Services

GENERAL HOME CONSIDERATIONS

“AARP HomeFit Guide: Smart Ways to Make a Home Comfortable, Safe and a Great Fit for Older Adults—and People of All Ages”
www.aarp.org/content/dam/aarp/livable-communities/housing/2020/homefit/HomeFit-Singles-12320.pdf

Shows ways adults of all ages could modify their homes in order to safely age-in-place. Room by room overview.

“5 Must-Have Home Modifications for Seniors Aging in Place”
www.assistedliving.org/home-modifications-for-seniors-aging-in-place

“...Ways to make your home more aging-friendly.” Discusses top home modifications for aging in place, as well as assistive technology for alerts, monitoring, and help.

“How to Make Your Home Handicap Accessible”
home.howstuffworks.com/home-improvement/remodeling/how-to-make-your-home-handicap-accessible.htm

Explores different aspects on adapting homes for more accessibility for all residents whose lives are impacted by disease, injuries, age, or other.

“Stay in Your Home: Smart Adaptations Will Ensure It Ages Well As You Get Older”
www.consumerreports.org/content/cro/en/money/stay-in-your-home/index.html

Some ideas to consider when doing home renovations or replacing fixtures or appliances. Note: costs may be outdated (from May 2021 Consumer Reports Money Advisor).

“How to Make a Home Safe for Your Aging Parent”
www.aarp.org/caregiving/home-care/info-2019/safety-tips.html

Article on some safety tips for those modifying a home for older relatives, from low-cost to expensive changes.

“Handicap Accessible Modifications that Won’t Turn Off Future Homebuyers”
www.angi.com/articles/handicap-accessible-modifications-won-t-turn-future-homebuyers.htm

Not all changes have to be unsightly or permanent. This article has suggestions for accomplishing this.

RAMPS

“Wood Ramp Design: How to Add a Ramp that Looks Good and Works Too”
projects.ncsu.edu/ncsu/design/cud/pubs_p/pwoodramp.htm
Then click on “Download the PDF version”

Booklet showing how to add a ramp with design details to make it possible for individuals with disabilities to remain in their homes through ramp accessibility.

“How to Build a Wheelchair Ramp: Wooden Ramp Project”

www.familyhandyman.com/project/how-to-build-a-wheelchair-ramp/

Some basic tips for the process of building a wheelchair ramp.

BATHROOMS

“Top 5 Things to Consider When Designing an Accessible Bathroom for Wheelchair Users”

www.eastersealstech.com/2014/06/11/top-5-things-consider-designing-accessible-bathroom-wheelchair-users

Considerations for planning or remodeling for an accessible bathroom that is safe for everyone.

KITCHENS

“Top 5 Things to Consider When Designing an Accessible Kitchen for Wheelchair Users”

www.eastersealstech.com/2014/06/04/accessiblekitchendesign/

Considerations for planning or remodeling for an accessible kitchen that is safe for everyone.

GARDENS

“5 Ways to Make a Wheelchair Accessible Garden”

assistivetechblog.com/2017/10/5-ways-wheelchair-accessible-garden.html

Five suggestions for implementing an accessible garden design.

“How to Set Up a Wheelchair Accessible Garden”

wheelchaired.com/wheelchair-gardening-guide/

How to start and build a garden from a wheelchair; tools and accessories; tips for gardening in a wheelchair.

GARAGES

“Important Garage Modifications to Help Seniors Who Want to Age-in-Place”

aginginplace.org/important-garage-modifications-to-help-seniors-who-want-to-age-in-place

The garage is often overlooked when thinking about modifying a home to age-in-place. Here are some changes to consider.

HOME ACCESSIBILITY FOR SENIORS OR THE DISABLED



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