



# Model Features for Accessible Homes

(ORS 701.525 through 701.530)

## Why think about accessibility now?

- To meet current needs if you are a senior or a person with disabilities.
- To plan future features to allow you to “age in place”.
- Many features may cost less when done at the time of original construction.

## Checklist of Possible Features to Upgrade a Home’s Accessibility

### General Features:

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> All doors 3 feet wide   | <input type="checkbox"/> Visual and audible cues for smoke alarms, telephones, and doorbells   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Automatic door opening options  | <input type="checkbox"/> Motion detector lighting inside and outside   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Consider door opening force when installing doors                                   | <input type="checkbox"/> Controls for adjusting lighting   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Open, wheelchair accessible floor plans for all rooms and access ways               | <input type="checkbox"/> Easy to reach electrical wall outlets   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Minimum width of hallways 42 inches   | <input type="checkbox"/> Light and temperature control switches no higher than 48 inches   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Consider shorter hallway lengths in floor plan                                      | <input type="checkbox"/> Larger rocker switch light controls   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> No, or low profile thresholds   | <input type="checkbox"/> Finish materials such as hardware and appliances that are work savers, durable, and easily cleaned and maintained |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Grab bars, or blocking for future grab bars and rails, 30-36 inches above the floor | <input type="checkbox"/> Floor coverings that allow easy movement of wheelchairs and walkers, and are easily cleaned and maintained        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Recessed cabinet, closet, drawer hardware and handles                               | <input type="checkbox"/> Built-in bookcases, entertainment centers, and shelving   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Elimination of sharp corners on cabinets  | <input type="checkbox"/> Lever handles on doors and faucets  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pre-wiring for additional phone lines, intercom, broadband, etc.                    | <input type="checkbox"/> Indoor fire control sprinklers  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Adequate/appropriate task lighting that provides good visibility                    | <input type="checkbox"/> Two heat sources  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Low glare fixtures and surfaces   | <input type="checkbox"/> Protection of wall surfaces with fiberglass-reinforced plastic or other durable material                          |
|  | <input type="checkbox"/> Handrail extensions for stairways inside and outside of home  |

(over)

### **Entryway, garage, sidewalks:**

- Header height of garage door a minimum of 8 feet, to accommodate van access
- Accessible route to sidewalk, front door, garage, and parking
- Consider present or future placement of outside ramps
- Solar lighting for outdoor and motion detector lights
- Low-maintenance landscaping
- Covered entryway
- Ice-resistant walkways

### **Kitchens:**

- Counter space beside refrigerator to facilitate loading and unloading
- Glides on drawers, and easy-to-use recessed cabinet hardware
- Sliding shelves in lower cabinets
- Electric receptacles, garbage disposal, and exhaust fan switches moved to the front of the counter or cabinet when safe to do so
- Accessible range/oven/microwave configuration and controls
- Trash compactors to limit trips to empty the garbage
- Varied countertop and workspace heights
- Pull-out or drop leaf shelves for working space
- Ice and water dispensers on outside of refrigerator door
- Sliding refrigerator shelves

### **Bathrooms:**

- Adequate access to toilet from either side
- Appropriate toilet height
- Accessible bathing facility
- Handheld shower wand
- Accessible sink with knee space below
- Accessible/appropriate sink, bath, and shower controls
- Single lever control faucets with anti-scald temperature control
- Phone accessible from floor level, in the event of a fall

### **Laundry Rooms:**

- Raised front load washer and dryer
- Combination washer/dryer units to eliminate moving heavy, wet clothes to dryer
- Adequate floor space for wheelchair maneuverability

### **Bedrooms:**

- Room design large enough for adequate movement around bed
- Built-in storage and dressers to allow clear floor space
- Widened walk-in closet doors, or elimination of closet doors
- Shelves and rods at various heights
- Placement of bedroom and bath on main floor

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