

The Beauty of Universal Design

Designing and building for people of all abilities

NW Universal Design Council

January 8, 2015

Presented by

Molly McCabe, AKBD, CGP, CAPS



By rōm architecture studio

What is Universal Design?

“The creation of environments and products which are meant to be usable by all people to the greatest extent possible, without the need for adaptation or specialization.”

Universal Design is intended to ...

- enhance the quality of life for all of us, regardless of age, limitations or ability
- be invisible and non-stigmatizing
- be so intuitive that you don't even think about it or notice it
- improve access while providing safety and comfort

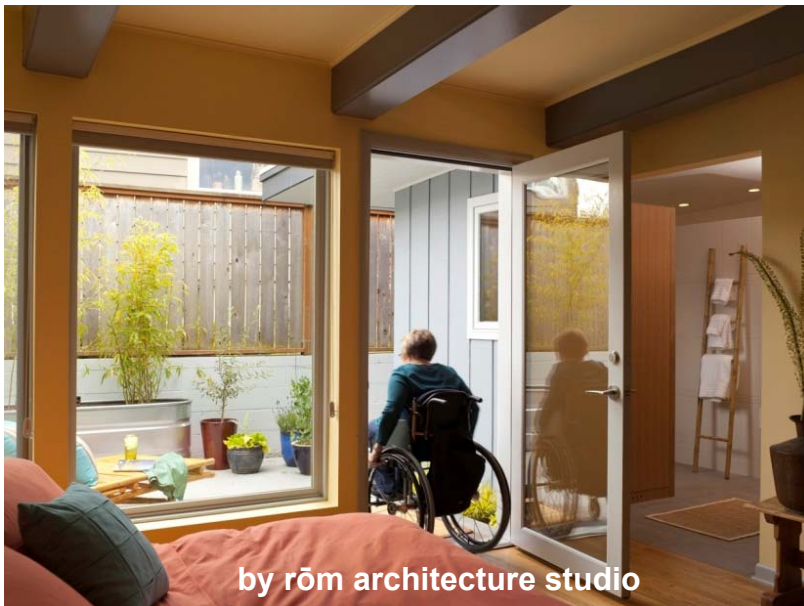
“Universal Design and aging-in-place design have the same end goals in mind – to create a world that is better for all”



Why is Universal Design Important?

- 1/3 of all Americans have some type of physical or cognitive limitation
- Less than one in ten US homes are designed to accommodate people with physical limitations
- 95% of Americans over 50 years old want to live in their current home as they age – Source: AARP
- We gain peace of mind knowing that we and our loved ones are safe and happy in their home

Why Consider Universal Design?

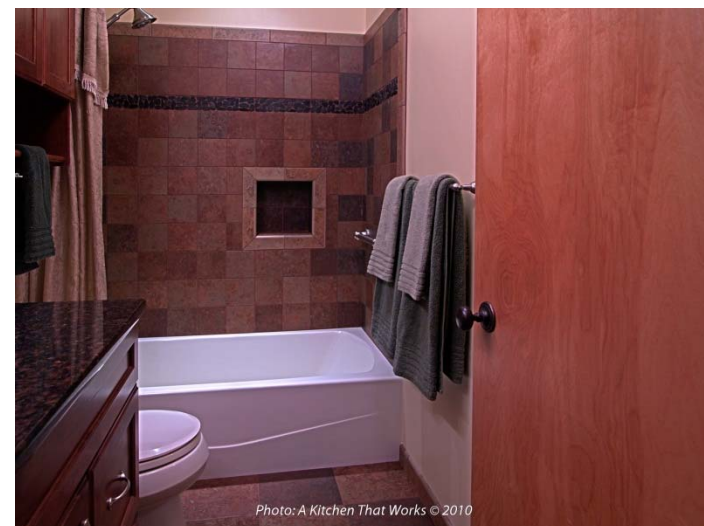


Allowing people to live with greater safety, freedom and dignity

Accommodating a sport/traumatic injury



It makes economic sense



What does UD look like?

Equitable



Design by Linda Evans, CKD, CBD, CAPS

Approachable



Design by Linda Evans, CKD, CBD, CAPS



Visitable

Flexible



Blum Hardware Servpro motorized door lift



Blum Hardware drawer glides

Simple & Intuitive



Low physical effort



Toto



Allows for tolerance of errors



Simple Touch

Perceptible



Kitchens



Photo: WestSound Home and Garden Magazine © 2009

- Varied height counters
- Accessible electrical outlets
- Open shelves
- Tall toe kicks

- Cabinet pulls
- Sliding cabinet doors
- Varied lighting
- Contrasting counters



By rōm architecture studio

Kitchen Appliances

Dishwasher
Drawers



Fisher Paykel

Side Hinged Oven



Bosch

Approachable
Cooktop &
Oven



Whirlpool



Jenn Air

Microwave
Drawer

Kitchen Hardware



Cutting Board – Designed
by DeMane Design



Rev-a-Shelf

Pull-out
Convenience
Hardware



Sliding Door
Hardware by Hafele

More Kitchen Hardware



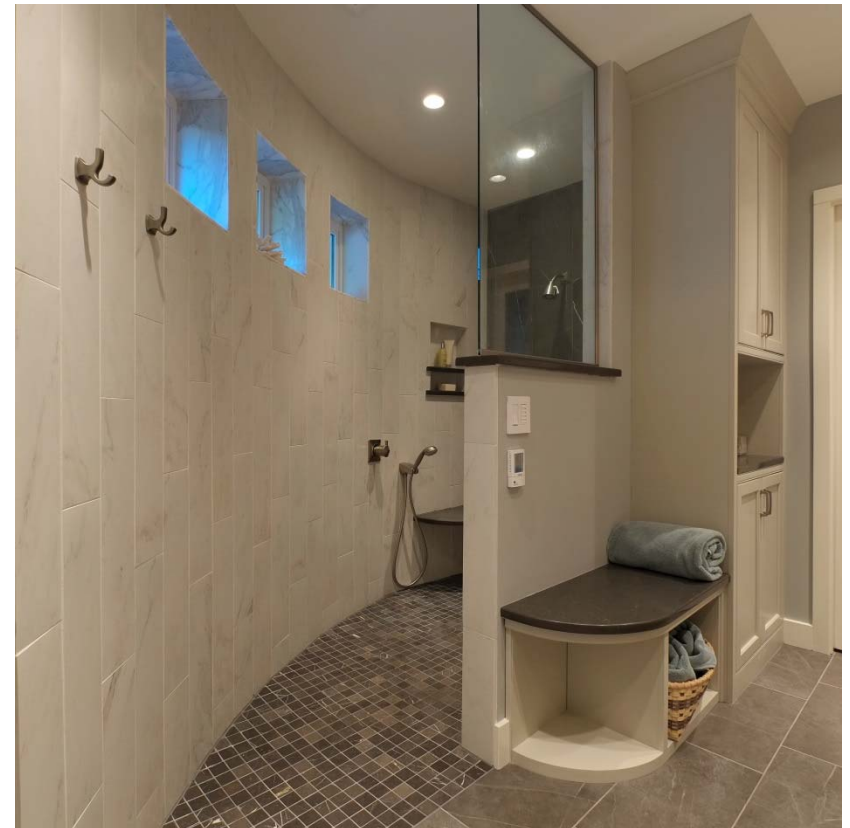
The Docking Drawer



Hafele Dish Peg Board
and LED Interior
Cabinet Lighting

Bathrooms

- Wall hung/comfort height toilets
- Adjustable height hand held showers
- Zero threshold showers
- Grab bars
- Accessible sinks
- Single lever faucets

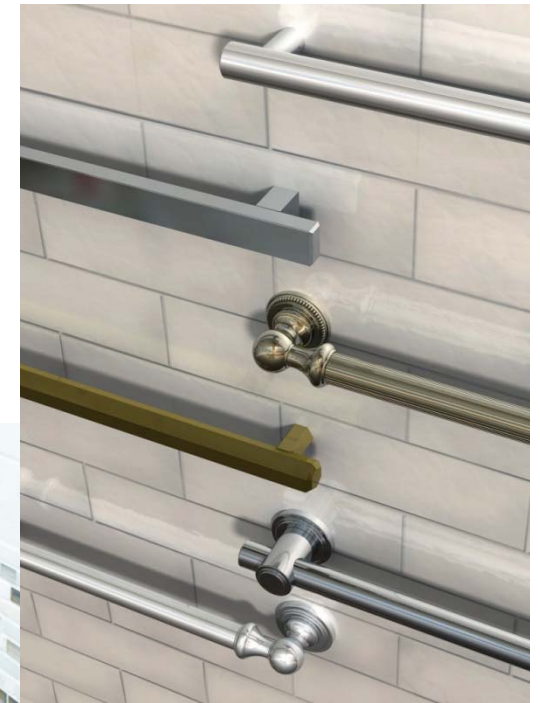


Design by DeMane Design

Bathroom Hardware & Fixtures



Moen



Jaclo

Additional Rooms

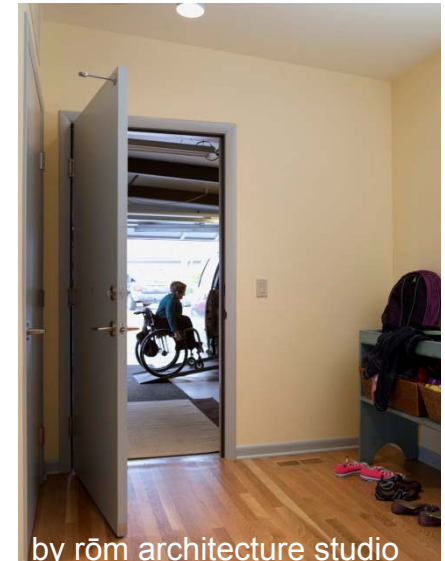


Hidden Desk

by rōm architecture studio



Easy Transitions



by rōm architecture studio

Accessible
Laundry



How to achieve UD

- Planning, planning, planning
- Work with a Certified Aging-in-Place Specialist (CAPS)
- Secure Financing





Resources

- General Information
 - ❖ Aging in Place Home Evaluations
 - ❖ Home Free Home.org
 - ❖ Center for Universal Design at North Carolina State University
 - ❖ Guide Book to the Accessible Home from Assist of Utah
 - ❖ Institute for Human Centered Design Boston
- Funding for UD & AIP
 - ❖ 203K Rehab Loans
 - ❖ VA Loans
 - ❖ Community Development Block Grants
 - ❖ Home Builders & Master Builders Associations
 - ❖ HomeFreeHome.org

Thank you!



Specializing in Kitchen & Bath
Design and Construction

206-780-1906
info@akitchenthatworks.com
www.akitchenthatworks.com