

Universal House Design

Wouldn't the ideal house be one that works to everyone's benefit, no matter age or ability? Universal design makes such a house a possibility.

Incorporating universal design allows for a house that addresses the abilities of all groups and ages and makes homes more livable for everyone.

It is often referred to as barrier-free living. Design features could include no-slip floors and tubs that increase safety for everyone in a home. Other examples of universal design characteristics are lever door handles that serve the person with arthritis and the person entering a room with an armful of groceries equally well. And no-step entries make it simple for seniors to safely move from room to room.

Aesthetic Upgrades

Products used in universal design once had an institutional feel to them. Now they're sleek and modern and marry safety with style.

Aging In Place Comfortably

The features are especially beneficial as people age and face more limited mobility. Living in homes designed with universal design principles makes it more likely that you'll be able to age in place with comfort.

Increase Home Safety

Universal design can also prevent falls, the leading cause of injury among older adults. Even simple changes, such as raising light levels, removing throw rugs and installing handrails and grab bars, can enhance the safety of a home considerably.

Remodeling for Universal Design

[Su Swanne, SRES, CSHP](#) can assess your house and make suggestions on how to incorporate universal design principles. She can refer you to remodeling professionals who can perform small and large home modification projects.

Source: <http://seniorsrealestate.com>

