Accessible bathroom shopping list

Refer to this list as you plan and shop for your home improvement project. By including accessible living features in your project, you will make your bathroom safer, more efficient, and easier for everyone to use now and in the future. Be sure to tell your contractor or supplier that you want these accessible living features.

Door opens out
Modify your bathroom door so it opens out instead of in. This creates extra space within the bathroom and removes the barrier of the door itself, making the bathroom easier to navigate. Other options include sliding or pocket doors.

Appropriate flooring
Reduce the risk of slips and falls with slip-resistant flooring. If you add a rug, make sure it has a non-slip backing.

Easy-to-use vanity
An open space under the sink provides room for a seated person to pull up close to the vanity. This can also be accomplished through a wall-hung sink. Mount a large mirror flush with the vanity so that all users—seated or standing, short or tall—can see their reflection.

Easy-to-reach outlets
Outlets should be low, close to the vanity counter. To make them easier to reach, put outlets toward the front of the vanity rather than behind the sink.

Single-lever faucet
A single-lever handle faucet doesn’t require a strong grip and makes it easier to adjust water temperature. As an added bonus, it’s also easier to clean.
Roll-in shower
Replace your bathtub with an accessible roll-in shower. Roll-in showers provide the flexibility and space to add a shower chair or bench. Slight sloping toward the drain keeps water in the shower.

Grab bars
With proper backing, grab bars can provide support and safety throughout the bathroom, particularly in the shower and near the toilet. Grab bars come in a variety of shapes and colors.

Handheld shower head
Add a handheld shower head to increase your shower’s accessibility and efficiency. Hang it on an adjustable bar to make it easier to reach and provide additional flexibility.

Comfort-height toilet
Consider switching from a standard 15-inch toilet to a 17-inch comfort-height toilet. The two additional inches can make a significant difference in ease of use for many people.

Ready for more accessibility tips?
We’re a non-profit dedicated to providing and promoting accessible housing. Learn more today: www.accessibleliving.org  |  www.mahohio.org  
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