A Room-By-Room Aging in Place Checklist

Here's a guide to help your clients start to think about the needs they might have in looking at their home's readiness for aging in place:

OVERALL

- __ Are there lever-style door handles?
- _ Do throw or area rugs have a non-slip backing?
- __ Is the home cluttered?
- __ Are cords in heavily walked areas tucked away?
- __ Is lighting bright?
- __ Are there light switches on both ends of rooms and hallways?
- _ Would voice-activated lighting be appropriate?
- __ Do all staircases have handrails?
- __ Is there a turning space in each room to accommodate a wheelchair (5-by-5 feet)?
- __ Are doorways at least 36 inches?
- __ Are door thresholds level with the floor?
- __ Is the thermostat readable?

ENTRYWAY

- _ Are there stairs to the entry?
- _ Do entry stairs have handrails?
- _ Is there room for an entry ramp with a minimum of six inches of length for each inch of rise?
- _ Is there a motion sensor light at main door?
- _ Is there non-slip flooring in the foyer?
- _ Would a bench in the entry be valuable?

BATHROOM

- Are there grab bars near the toilet, bath and shower?
- _ Is the toilet seat 17–19 inches high?
- __ Are there sink handle levers or is the faucet hands free?
- _ Do the tub and shower have anti-slip coating?
- _ ls there a slip-resistant floor treatment?
- _ Is there a handheld showerhead?
- _ Is there a no-curb shower or walk-in tub?
- _ Does the bathing area have a light above?
- _ Does the door open outward to maximize space?
- _ Is there a chair or bench in the shower?
- _ Is the shower enclosure made of non-shattering material?

KITCHEN

- _ Is there a lever-handle or hands-free faucet?
- __ Are the stove controls easily accessible?
- _ Is there a fire extinguisher handy?
- _ Do base cabinets have roll-out trays?
- __ Are the most-accessed items easy to reach?



- _ Do corner cabinets have Lazy Susans?
- _ Is there under-cabinet lighting?
- _ Does the stove alert you if a burner is left on?
- __ Are the sink and counter height 36 inches?

BEDROOM

- _ Does the bed sit 20-23 inches from the top of the mattress to the floor?
- _ Is there a light switch near the bed?
- _ Is there a light on a nightstand?
- _ Would a night light be appropriate?
- _ Is the nightstand the same height as the bed?
- _ Does the bed have rails?
- _ Do closets have lighting?
- Are all frequently used items in the closet easily accessible?
- _ Is there adequate clearance for a walker or wheelchair around the bed?
- __ Can a phone be easily reached from the bed?

