# 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

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