

# CHECKLIST FOR ADAPTING A HOME TO AGE IN PLACE

### Entry and Stairs

- At least one entry without stairs
- 36"-wide doorway with offset hinges
- Side window at entrance or lowered peephole
- Handrails on both sides of stairs
- Outside stair height below 4"
- Contrasting strip on stair edge
- Ramp slope of no more than 2" per 12" in length, 2" curbs, 5' landing at entrance
- Low or no threshold
- No mats or throw rugs
- Exterior sensor light focused on door lock
- Surface inside doorway for placing packages
- Audible doorbell

### Home Design and Layout

- Easy-open windows with low sills
- Color contrast between walls and floors, matte finish wall coverings
- Adequate, accessible storage
- Wide halls and doorways (interior doors and hinges can be removed)
- "Flex room" for family visits or live-in care provider
- Attached garage with opener or covered carport, room for wheelchair loading
- Smoke and carbon monoxide detectors
- Low-vision adaptations
- Contrasting color switch plates

### Kitchen

- Cabinets with pull-out shelves and turntables
- Wall cabinets set below (about 3") standard height
- Glass cabinet doors or open shelving
- Easy-to-grasp cabinet knobs, pulls, or loop handles
- Task lighting under cabinets
- Electric cooktop with front controls and hotsurface indicator
- Microwave at counter height
- Wall oven or side opening oven door at counter height
- Counter space for transferring items from refrigerator, oven, sink, and cooktop
- Contrasting color strip on counter edges
- Side-by-side refrigerator/freezer with adjustable upper shelves and pull-out lower shelves. freezer drawer on the bottom
- Raised dishwasher
- Variety in counter height—some at table height (30")—under-counter seated work area
- Gas sensor near gas appliances

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Please go to www.buyselltoronto.com to download a printable format for your record keeping.

### **Bathrooms**

- Tub and shower controls offset
- Light in shower stall
- Shower stall with low or no threshold, trench
- Fold-down shower seat or room for a bath chair
- Hand-held shower head with 6' hose
- Lower bathtub for easier access
- Grab bars at back and sides of shower, tub, and toilet, or wall-reinforcement for later installation
- Adapter to raise toilet seat 21/2" 3" higher than standard
- Turnaround and transfer space for walker or wheelchair (36" x 36")
- Knee space under sink and vanity
- Counters at sit-down height
- Emergency alert or call button

## **Faucets, Switches, Controls**

- Temperature-controlled or anti-scald valves for faucets
- Lever faucet handles
- Easy-to-read, push button controls
- Lever door handles
- Loop drawer handles
- Easy-to-read, programmable thermostat
- Light switches at each room entry
- Light switches at 42" from floor
- Electrical outlets 15"-18" from floor
- Front controls on cooktop

#### Home Care

- Low-maintenance exterior (vinyl siding) and landscaping
- Housekeeping service
- Repair service
- Security and emergency alert service
- Uncluttered, unobstructed exterior and interior pathways
- Easily accessible filters on HVAC units
- Central vacuum system
- Snow removal and grass cutting services
- Visitor Video monitoring



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