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Kitchen and laundry guide
for builders and remodelers

The less challenging home



 **Whirlpool**
CORPORATION



Making homes easy to use.

Every person has some type of physical or mental limitation that makes certain tasks more difficult to accomplish than others. But often people forget to take these limitations into consideration when designing a kitchen or laundry area. The result can be choices that turn simple day-to-day tasks into difficult chores.

This guide is designed to help you rethink your approach to planning a kitchen or laundry area. From affordable modifications of existing rooms to attractive new room designs — this guide shows you how careful planning and proper selection and installation of appliances can make tasks easier for homeowners.

Table of contents

Asking the right questions	4
Appropriate work center layout	6
Selecting the right materials	7
Proper materials make rooms more functional	8
Matching appliance features to your needs	9
Selecting the right appliance for your needs	14
Considerations for specific work stations	16
Modifications to existing kitchens or laundry rooms	18
Helpful tools available from Whirlpool — FREE	20
Where to find additional information and help	22



Effective. Affordable. Attractive. Whirlpool Corporation offers you a full line of appliances that make life less challenging for the entire family.

Asking the right questions.

Gathering detailed information before you begin will help you create a more effective work space. Below are some general questions to keep in mind when you are asking homeowners to describe their work space needs.

What might restrict their performance?

Wheelchairs, crutches, canes and walkers make it easy to see that a person may have difficulty with walking. But many people have limitations that may not be as apparent.

Joint, nerve or muscle damage can affect the ability to fully extend, bend or lift arms, legs or hands — resulting in **limited reach, limited bending or limited grip**.

Height can also create challenges. Standard homes are designed for an average height range of 5'1" to 6'. This can require adjustments to accommodate **high reach or low reach**.

Limited senses are another consideration. A person may be able to hear certain tones (**limited hearing**) or read large type (**limited vision**) — or they may have **no hearing or no vision at all**. **Limited feeling** in hands and legs can prevent people from noticing they are being bruised or burned. **Limited memory** may interfere with people remembering how to complete certain tasks.

These are just some of the more common challenges people face. Individual family members may have different types of limitations. Or one person may have a combination of conditions that make certain tasks more difficult. At the same time, some people may have equipment, staff or specially trained animals* to help them compensate for things they cannot do — eliminating certain challenges.

Asking people to describe their limitations and their capabilities will help you design an area that best meets their specific needs.

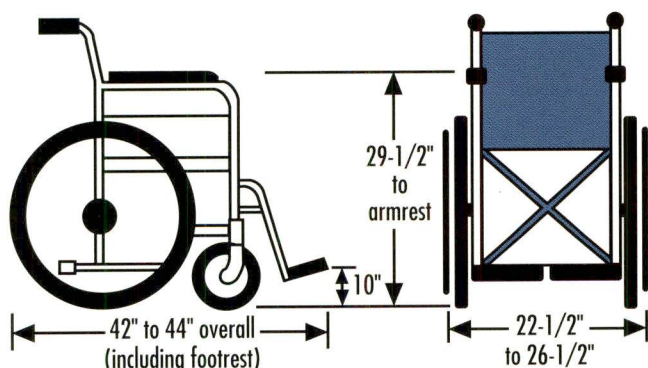
**Computers and robotic equipment are enabling many people to speak, move and grip. It is also common for people to train animals to assist with certain tasks. For example: Guide dogs help lead people with limited or no vision; hearing dogs alert people with limited/no hearing; and service dogs open doors and retrieve items for people with limited mobility.*

Who will use the area? And why?

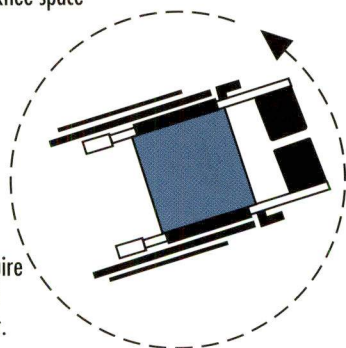
Another consideration is which family members will be using the kitchen and laundry areas the most? Will a young child or grandparent help with some of the chores? What will be the main tasks each will do? Cook? Unload groceries? Wash dishes? Fold laundry? How can things be arranged in the area to make work more efficient?

How much space will they require?

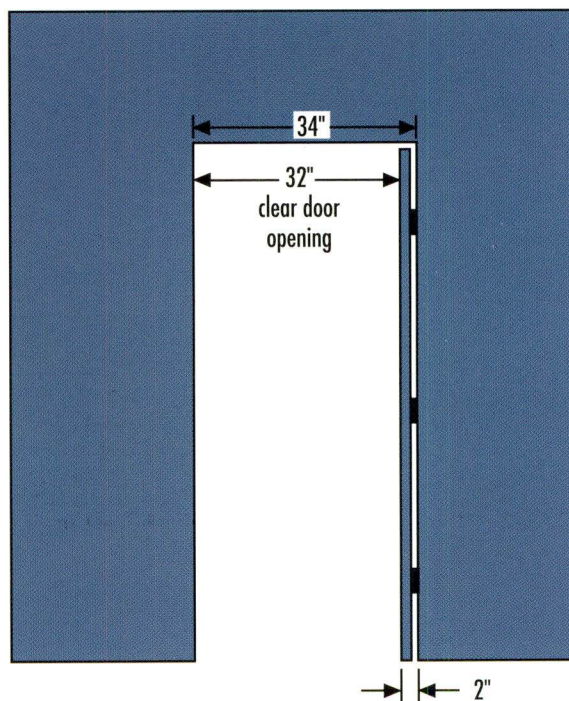
Does the person use a wheelchair or walker? Will they have an assistant helping them? Or will they need room for a dog? Below are some standard dimensions. Manufacturers and therapists can help you determine exact clearances required by specific types of equipment.



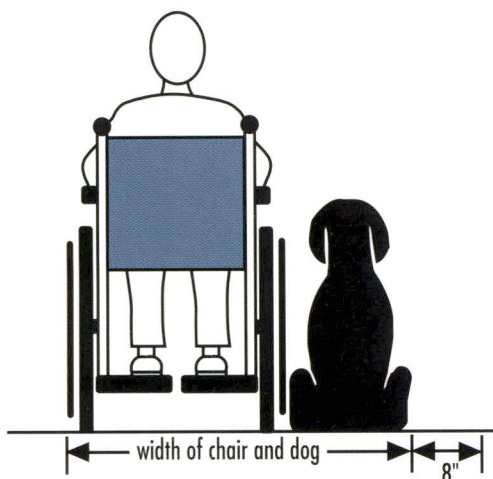
Allow 24" width x 24" height for knee space



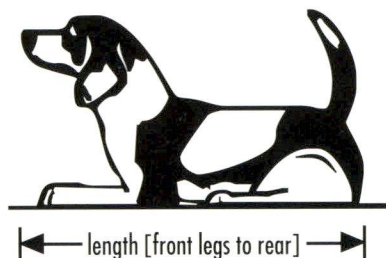
Most wheelchairs require a turning radius of 4-1/2 to 5-1/2 feet.



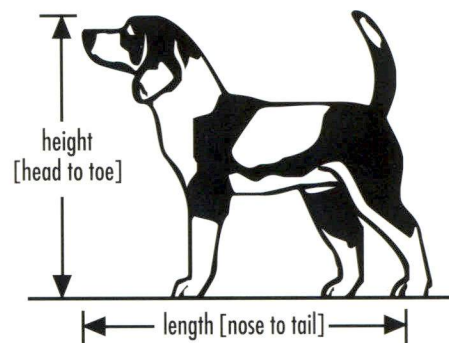
A 32-inch minimum clear door opening is recommended for rooms requiring wheelchair access. A clear door opening equals the actual width of the door opening minus 2 inches of space for the open door.



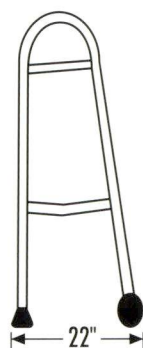
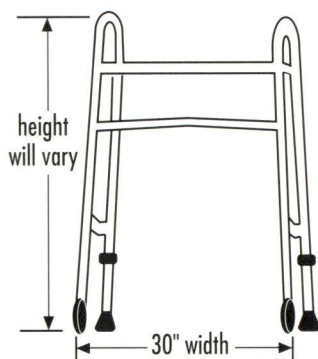
Allow 8" min. plus width of wheelchair and service dog for ease of maneuvering in aiseways.



Check that aiseways provide sufficient room for a resting service, hearing or seeing-eye dog.



Check that countertop heights are appropriate for the height of service, hearing or seeing-eye dog.



Most walkers require a turning radius of 4 to 5 feet, depending on the build of the person.



Comfort Zones	Standing/Walking Unassisted	Walking with Assistance*	Sitting
Max. upper cabinet reach: over a counter without a counter	68 inches 77 inches	63 inches 68 inches	60 inches 48 inches
Max. vision for items on high shelf	61 inches	61 inches	48 inches
Max. height of storage for daily use	74 inches	65 inches	45 inches
Min. aisle space:	3 feet	4 feet	4.5 feet
Min. space between work stations			
1 cook	4 feet	5 feet	5.5 feet
2 or more cooks	4.5 feet	5.5 feet	6 feet
Max. aisle space between counters	6 feet	6 feet	6.5 feet

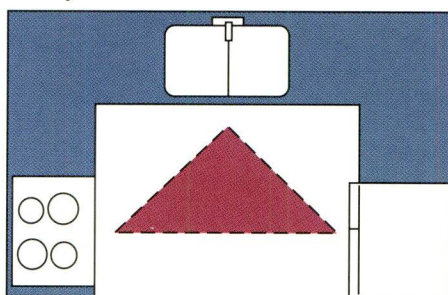
* Leaning on another person; or using a cane, crutches, or walker.

Appropriate work center layout.

Efficient kitchens generally are designed around a work triangle formed by the location of the refrigerator, sink and range. The arrangement of the “work center” around this triangle depends on the space available. Four of the more common work centers are described below.

Some work centers are easier for certain people to use than others. If the existing work station is not appropriate for use by the family, the descriptions below suggest ways you can modify the design to make it more appropriate. However, unless the limitation is only temporary (such as broken leg), the best solution may be to redesign the kitchen to use a more suitable work center.

U-shaped work center



Appropriate:

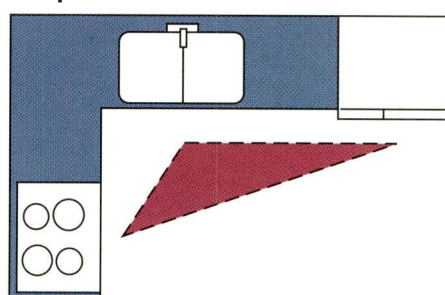
- Provides room to maneuver wheelchair.
- Provides room for two people to work.
- Reduces kitchen traffic flow problems.
- Reduces risk of bumping into appliances.

Inappropriate:

- People who have difficulty maneuvering or seeing across wide open areas:
 - walkers
 - crutches
 - low vision

To adapt a U-shaped work center for their use, place appliances closer together to shorten the work triangle.

L-shaped work center



Appropriate:

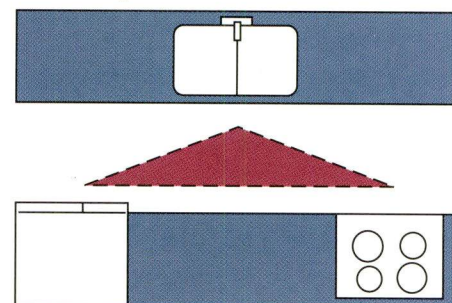
- Provides room for kitchen traffic to flow through room without interfering with work triangle.
- Provides ample room for storage next to each work station.
- Sufficient room for two people or a wheelchair.

Inappropriate:

- People who have difficulty maneuvering or seeing across wide open areas:
 - walkers
 - crutches
 - low vision

To adapt an L-shaped work center for their use, place cooking work station closer to the corner of the L.

Island and peninsular work centers



Appropriate:

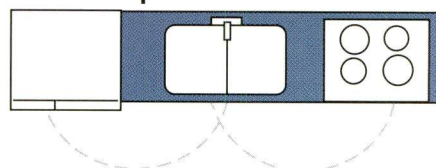
- Shortens work triangle for easy use by people with low vision, walkers or crutches.

Inappropriate:

- Open appliance doors may partially block aisle space needed for wheelchair.

To adapt work center for use with a wheelchair, move island/peninsula further away from main wall to increase aisle space.

Corridor and pullman work centers



Corridor work centers put appliances across an aisleway from each other. Pullman work centers place all appliances along the same wall.

Appropriate:

- Shortens work triangle for easy use by people with low vision, walkers or crutches.*

Inappropriate:

- Open appliance doors may partially block aisle space needed for wheelchair.

To adapt work center for a wheelchair, widen aisle space.

*NOTE: The distance between the sink and appliances can make these work centers tiring to maneuver when using crutches, a walker or wheelchair. Shortening the distance will help eliminate inefficiencies.

Recommended Work Triangle Dimensions	Standard	Wheelchair	Walker/Crutches
Total distance connecting refrigerator, range and sink	12 to 22 feet	14 to 24 feet	10 to 20 feet
Refrigerator to sink	4 to 7 feet	6 to 9 feet	2 to 5 feet
Sink to range	4 to 6 feet	6 to 8 feet	2 to 4 feet
Range to refrigerator	4 to 9 feet	6 to 11 feet	2 to 7 feet

Selecting the right materials.

Designing an area to meet certain limitations does not have to involve custom-designed, expensive materials — just a good understanding of product benefits. This section explains how to use readily available materials to make kitchen and laundry areas less challenging to use.



Proper floor covering improves mobility and aids vision.

- Stain-resistant carpets and smooth surfaces make cleanup easier.
- Floor borders in a contrasting color can help “warn” someone with low vision that there is a solid surface ahead.
- Carpeted floors with padding can muffle noises — making it easier to hear appliance signals.
- Non-carpeted floors can let you hear people entering and leaving the room — even when you don’t see them.
- Wet no-wax and ceramic floors can be dangerous to maneuver on crutches and walkers.
- High-pile carpeting can make movement by wheelchair difficult and slow.
- Hardwood floors can be slippery and cause poor traction for dogs.
- Patterned floors make it difficult to spot spills.
- Light-colored floors quickly show scuff marks from rubber-tipped canes, crutches or wheelchair wheels.
- Dark colors can reduce visibility in a room.

Wall coverings can act as room “maps.”

- Use wall surfaces that hide fingerprints for people who balance themselves against a wall or who cannot see.
- Use large wallpaper patterns and bright colors to help people with limited vision or depth perception to distinguish between cabinets, doorways and walls.
- Use wallpaper patterns depicting scenes of the room (such as cooking utensils in the kitchen) to help orient people as to which room they are in.
- Use contrasting paint trim and wallpaper borders to highlight the location of wall receptacles, light switches and doorways.
- A subtle change in the pattern, such as using blue tile on one side of a sink and red tile on the other side, helps remind people which direction to turn a faucet for hot and cold.

Select countertops that help prevent problems.

- Adjust the height of countertops for someone who has back trouble or limited reach.
- Install countertops with rounded edges to reduce injuries should someone fall against or bump into them.
- Contrasting colors around the edges of countertops help people see where the countertop begins and ends.
- Install a brass bar along the edge of a countertop to help people steady themselves while standing or walking.

Match cabinet features to your needs.

- Use D-shaped handles for easy grip.
- Self-closing drawers prevent bumps and bruises.
- Adjustable shelves, roll out baskets and turntables put items within easy reach.
- Sturdy covered drawers can double as stepping stools under sinks, wall ovens and cooktops.
- Varying the color of the cabinet knobs can help people remember which cabinet or drawer contains various items.

Lighting helps you find your way.

- Lamps, floor lights, cabinet lights, closet lights, windows and skylights can help people find their way easier.
- Timers and motion sensors that automatically turn lights on and off are helpful for people who have difficulty remembering or reaching.
- Specially wired lamps and fans can be used to notify people of ringing doorbells, appliance timers and smoke detectors they cannot hear.
- Overhead lamps that adjust up and down are ideal for homes where the height of the family members varies greatly.

NOTE: Natural light is more diffuse than artificial light — making it easier to see. When natural light is not available, use fluorescent bulbs and soft light incandescent bulbs to reduce glare.

**Proper materials make
rooms more functional.**

Use the charts below as a guideline for selecting materials that will make your kitchen and laundry areas more functional. The dark boxes indicate materials that are recommended for that situation. Check with the homeowner for other helpful ideas.

Floor covering	Wheelchair	Cane	Dog	Crutches	Walker	Limited Vision	Limited Hearing
Rubberized vinyl							
Low pile carpet							
Medium pile carpet							
High pile carpet							
No-wax							
Ceramic/Tile							
Hardwood							
Throw rugs							

Wall covering	Limited Vision	No Vision	Limited Grip/ Lifting	Long Reach	Short Reach	Limited Hearing	No Hearing	Limited Memory
Prints								
Borders								
Hides fingerprints								
Countertops								
Rounded edges								
Contrasting border								
Railing								
Adjusted height								
Cabinets								
D-ring knobs								
Self-closing								
Turntables								
Adjustable shelves								
Adjusted height								
Lighting								
Motion detectors								
Timers								
Flashing signal								
Floor lights								
Cupboard lights								
Adjustable height								

Matching appliance features to your needs.

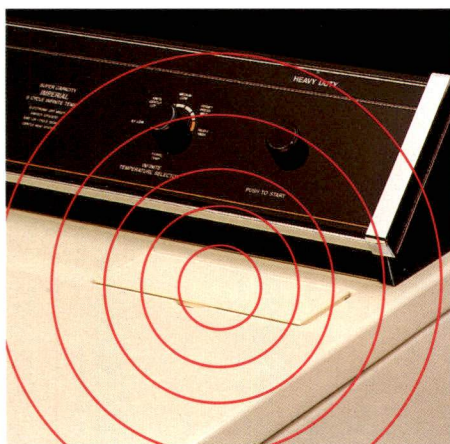
People often think they have to buy special appliances. But special appliances can cost thousands of dollars and their modifications can make them impractical for use by other family members. To save money, we recommend looking for helpful features on regular kitchen and laundry appliances. Here are examples of features that are practical for the whole family.

For limited vision:



A colorful way to cook.

Light-colored surfaces with contrasting dark cast-iron elements make it easy for cooks to see elements.



Dryer reminds you to check lint screen.

Dryers with audible lint signals that sound when it is time to clean the lint screen are helpful to people who have difficulty seeing light-colored lint.



For limited reach:

Side-by-side refrigerators put foods within easy reach.

The width of side-by-side refrigerator doors makes them lightweight to open and puts foods within easy reach. The open doors take up less aisle space, making them easier to maneuver around by walker or wheelchair.

Freezer and refrigerator baskets make it easy to get at foods.

Refrigerators and freezers that feature sturdy wire baskets that slide out or remove provide easy access to all contents.

Slide-out shelves bring foods within reach.

Refrigerators with slide-out glass shelves make it easy to reach foods and keep spills contained.

Temperature controls where you can reach them.

Front-located refrigerator/freezer temperature controls are easy to reach, read and adjust.

Enjoy chilled water without opening the door.

Handy through-the-door ice and water dispensers let people help themselves to water and ice without opening the refrigerator door or pouring from heavy water pitchers. And they eliminate the need for filling, carrying and twisting plastic ice cube trays.

See what's inside crisper drawer.

See-through crisper drawer fronts make it possible to see what's where at a glance — without having to pull open drawers.



Get instant hot water at the turn of the tap.

Hot water dispensers let homeowners cook pasta, heat water for instant foods, or warm the baby's bottle at the sink — without having to lug pots of water to and from a range. Large handles make gripping and turning easy.



Conveniently located cooktop, range and vent controls.

Controls located to the front or side of range or cooktop are easy to reach while standing or sitting. They also eliminate the risk of reaching over a heated burner. Cooktops and ranges featuring downdraft vent systems put vent controls within low reach.



Side swing oven doors make cooking easier.

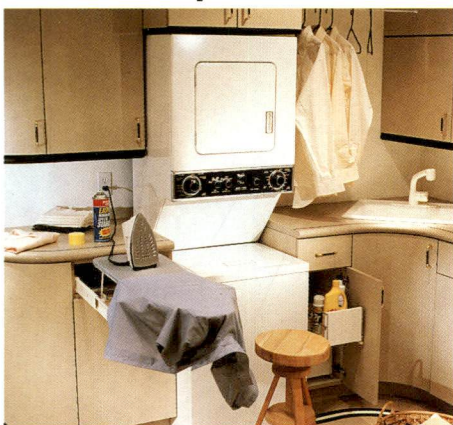
Microwave/convection ovens with side swing doors not only put controls within easy reach, they let cooks position themselves right in front of the oven for easier loading and removal of foods.



Side swing dryer doors are easy to maneuver.

Side swing dryer doors provide plenty of room for reaching inside the dryer while seated or standing.

For flexibility:



Washers and dryers positioned for your height.

Washer/dryer combinations let taller people load clothes without bending. Compact washers and dryers can be arranged to make loading easier for people under five foot and people using wheelchairs.



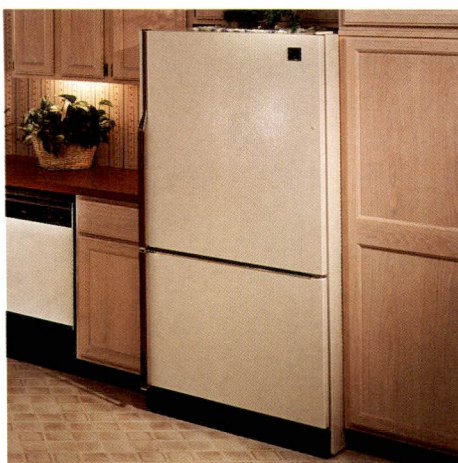
Refrigerator bins adjust to reach.

Refrigerators with deep door bins or adjustable shelves let people put gallon containers and other large bottles within easy reach.



Choose the best location.

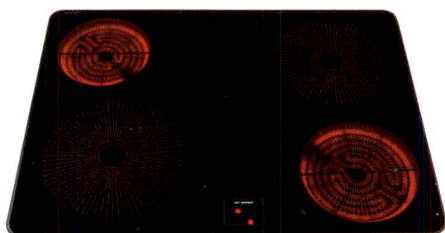
Up high. Down low. Under a counter. Or over a range. A choice of compact, standard and over-the-range microwaves — plus built-in cabinet, wall-mounting and undercabinet mounting kits — lets you position a microwave within the ideal reach of the user.



Put foods where you need them.

Bottom-mount freezer and side-by-side refrigerators enable people under five feet to conveniently get at both frozen and refrigerated foods. Top-mount freezers reduce bending for taller people. Upright freezers are easier to open while seated and keep foods within easier reach than chest freezers.

For limited hearing:



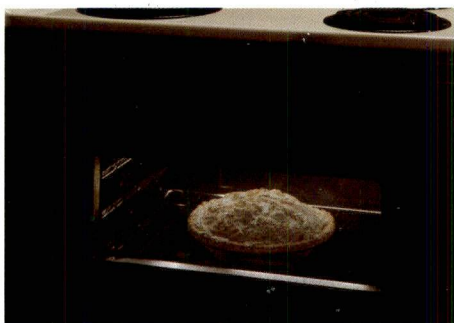
Lights tell you it's hot even when it doesn't look it.

Fast-heating radiant elements glow red through translucent cooktop surfaces — making it easy to see which elements are heating. When the elements are turned off, hot surface indicator lights remain lit until the burner cools — helping to prevent accidental burns by touching or leaning against hot elements.



Dishwasher function signals "talk" you through washing.

Dishwashers with indicator lights show that water is being heated or a wash cycle is complete. Models with add-a-dish signals show when there's still time to add a forgotten glass or dish.



Keep track of baking without opening oven door.

Interior oven lights and see-through doors let cooks check the progress of meals without pulling open the oven door.



To aid memory:

Instructions ready with every load.

Should you run a normal or delicate knits cycle? Pick hot water or cold? Under-the-lid instructions remind you with every load.

Dispensers and filters eliminate extra steps.

Dispensers that automatically add bleach and fabric softener to the wash save people from having to remember to come back later. Self-cleaning lint filters also save time.

Preprogrammed settings make microwave cooking easy.

Microwave ovens that feature preprogrammed meal settings make it easier for cooks who have a hard time remembering temperatures and cooking times.

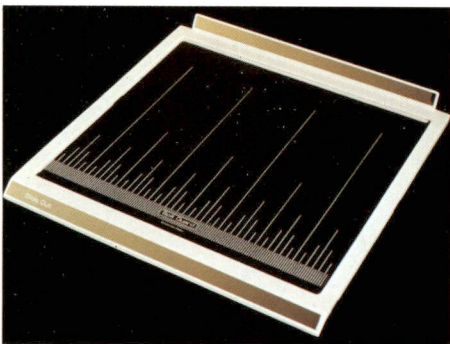


Special timers automatically turn oven off.

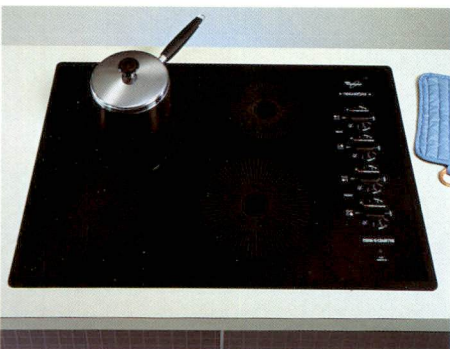
Ovens and microwave ovens that let the cook or other family members program the start and end times, help assure that food will begin cooking and the oven will shut off as needed.

Family members can place a meal in the oven at noon time, then call to remind the person at home to remove the cooked food for their dinner that night — making it easier to prepare meals for others.

Easy cleanup makes everyone's life easier.



Dual support rods under liftup cooktops free both hands for cleaning. Refrigerator shelves and cooktops with slightly raised edges help contain spills — making cleanup easier.



Smooth glass range surfaces.

Freestanding ranges with elements mounted below a smooth glass surface prevent spills from collecting under elements — making cleanup easier.



No-frost refrigerators and freezers.

No-frost refrigerators and freezers eliminate the messy, time-consuming task of defrosting.

For convenience:



Trash compactors save on trips to the curb.

Trash compactors reduce trash to a compact bundle, 1/3 the original size — eliminating multiple and cumbersome bags of trash. Open the compactor drawer by hand with the easy grip handle, or by foot with the toe-step opener.



Compact refrigerators save trips to kitchen.

Placed next to a bed, family room chair or bathroom counter, compact refrigerators make it easy to get at refrigerated insulin/prescriptions, drinks or cold meals without going to the kitchen.

Selecting the right appliance for your needs.

Whirlpool Corporation does not manufacture “special needs” appliances. Instead, the appliances you find standard on the showroom floor already include the helpful features needed to make cooking, cleanup and laundry less challenging for the entire family. The dark boxes on these charts show which appliances are best matched to specific capabilities/limitations.

Ranges/Microwave Range Combinations	Limited Vision	No Vision	Limited Grip/Lifting	Long Reach	Short Reach	Limited Touch	Limited Hearing	No Hearing	Limited Memory	Universal
Front- or side-located controls										
Dark elements on light cooktops										
Oven window										
Interior oven light										
Hot-surface-indicator lights										
SPILL GUARD™cooktop edge										
Auto start/stop MEALTIMER™										
Lift-up dual rod cooktop										
Cooktops										
Front- or side-located controls										
Dark elements on light cooktop										
Hot-surface-indicator lights										
SPILL GUARD™cooktop edge										
Lift-up dual rod cooktop										
Downdraft vent system										
Wall Ovens										
Oven window										
Interior oven light										
Auto start/stop MEALTIMER™										
Microwave Ovens										
Auto start/stop MEALTIMER™										
Preset temperature/cooking times										
Microwave oven mounting kits										
Over-the-range microwave ovens										

Key to chart:

Limited vision - Ability to distinguish some objects; peripheral vision.

No vision - Total blindness.

Limited grip/lifting - Difficulty gripping and lifting.

Long reach - Can reach further than the average person.

Short reach - Cannot reach or extend limbs as far as the average person; people in wheelchairs.

Limited touch - Cannot detect heat or pain.

Limited hearing - Ability to distinguish some tones or hear loud sounds.

No hearing - Total deafness.

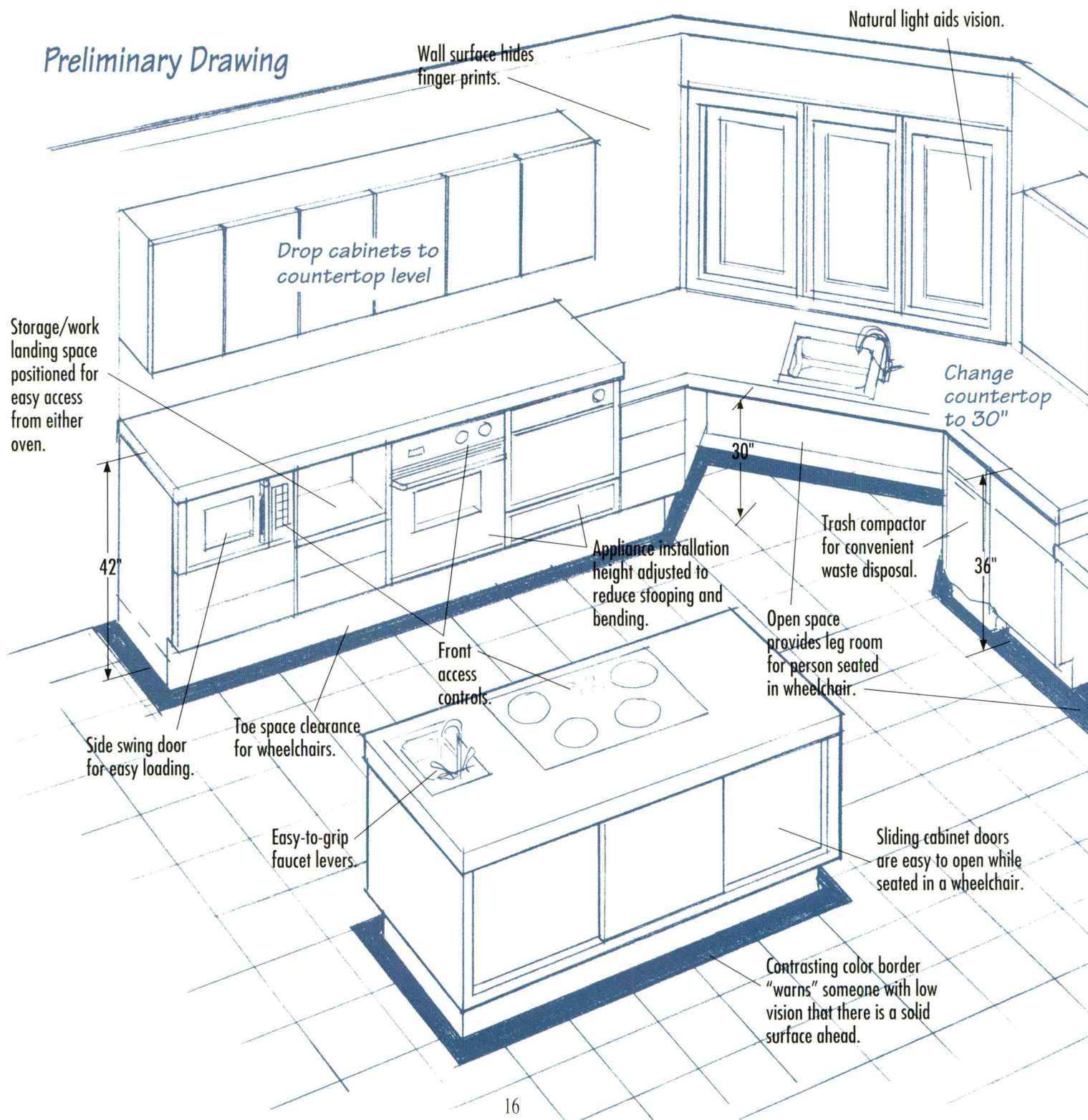
Limited memory - Short term memory loss or limited recall.

Universal - Recommended for all customers to make work less challenging.

Refrigerators/Freezers	Limited Vision	No Vision	Limited Grip/Lifting	Long Reach	Short Reach	Limited Touch	Limited Hearing	No Hearing	Limited Memory	Universal
Top-mount freezer										
Bottom-mount freezer										
Side-by-side freezer										
Compact refrigerators										
Upright freezers										
Freezer chests										
Upfront temperature controls										
Chilled water/ice through door										
Adjustable door storage bins										
SPILL GUARD™shelves										
Slide-out freezer baskets										
LOAD LOCK shelf dividers										
Washers										
Under-the-lid instructions										
Bleach dispenser										
Fabric softener dispenser										
Self-cleaning lint filter										
Dryers										
Side swing dryer door										
Lint screen signal										
Washer/dryer combination										
Wall-mounted dryer										
Dishwashers										
Cycle indicator lights										
Add-a-dish signal										
Other Products										
Hot water dispenser										
Trash compactor										

Considerations for specific work stations.

After selecting the correct appliances and materials, the next consideration is how to combine and install them in ways that will make the work stations more efficient. Organizing the work stations as shown here will make tasks less challenging.





Finished kitchen — modified from drawing at left to accommodate wheelchair use.

Other things to keep in mind.

Think like a traffic controller.

Plan work areas to provide plenty of room to get tasks done, yet compact enough to be efficient.

Locate doors so they do not funnel traffic into the work area. Place the refrigerator where snackers can reach it without getting in the cook's way. Add a second sink for kitchen helpers or thirsty kids. Set up an island to provide workspace for two cooks. Locate the washer and dryer away from doors, hallways or other high traffic areas that may interfere with loading and unloading.

Open doors.

Check that appliance, cabinet and room doors are positioned for easy opening and closing. Hinge room doors to swing in and out for easier opening by service dogs or people using crutches, walkers or wheelchairs. Many refrigerator doors can also be adjusted so that the doorstop is less than 180° — for easier closing by people with limited arm strength or mobility.

Keep it quiet.

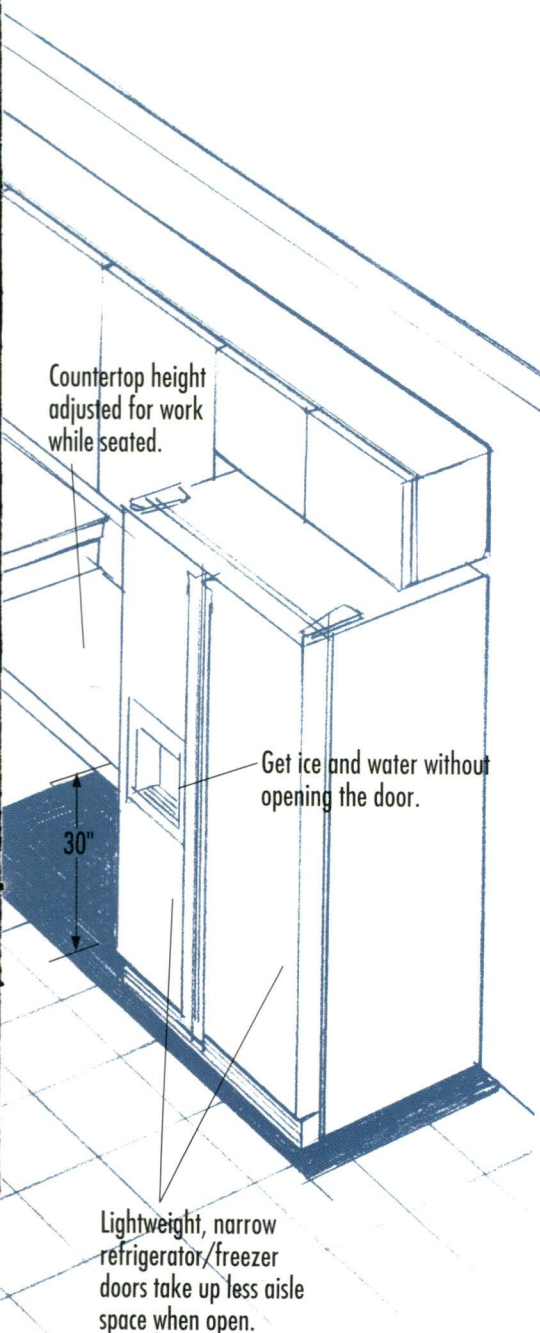
Look for appliances that control excess noise, such as dishwashers, washers and trash compactors that are insulated for quiet operation. The reduction in sound will help users hear signals and timers on other appliances.

Pinpoint potential problems.

Put yourself in the place of the person using the kitchen or laundry area. Is there an overhang or cabinet that would be in the way of someone with low or peripheral vision? Does the work area provide easy access to a fire extinguisher or exit in the event of an emergency? Are light switches, outlets and appliance controls within easy reach? Is there convenient access to gas and water shutoff valves and to the home's power supply box? Simple adjustments can prevent serious accidents or problems.

Remember other family members.

Most homes have more than one occupant. Make sure the design choices you make will not only make tasks less challenging for the homeowner — but will also make the home comfortable for use by the entire family.



Modifications to existing kitchens or laundry rooms.

When it is not possible or practical to design an entirely new kitchen, homeowners can make an existing kitchen or laundry area more practical by making minor adjustments. Here are some simple changes to consider when adapting an area to accommodate someone's needs.



Install a flexible arm, swivel task lamp to provide additional light where needed.



Install an adjustable mirror above cooking surface to help cooks see into pots and pans while seated.

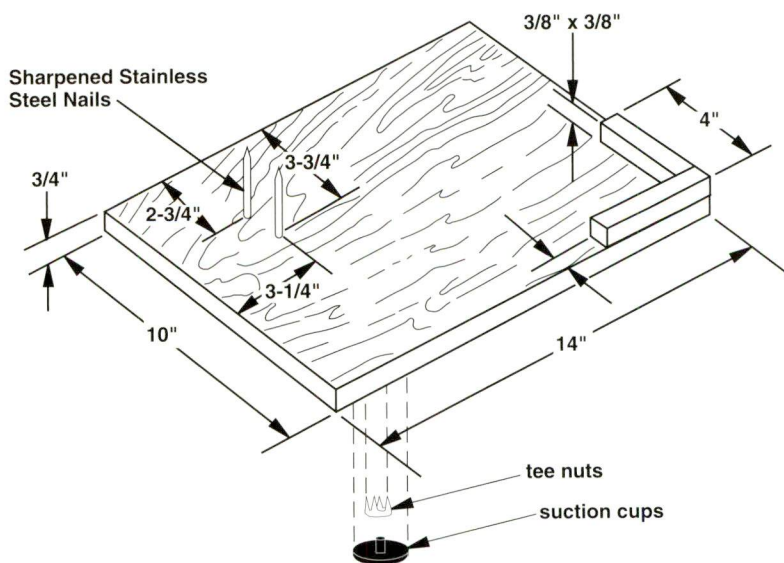


Make a cutting board with a raised edge at one corner and a set of upright prongs to help hold food in position for slicing, buttering and peeling.



Use a lapboard or tray between the arms of a wheelchair for an extra work surface or for transporting hot pans from an oven.

A tea cart with raised edges helps people with crutches or walkers transport items.



Cutting board instructions:

Drill 1/4" holes in the bottom of a 10" x 14" x 3/4" cutting board at each corner. Hammer tee nuts into holes; then screw in suction cups. Drill two holes and hammer in two sharpened stainless steel nails. Cut and sand two 4" wood strips and glue or nail to corner as shown. Finish board by rubbing with salad oil.

Remove all throw rugs and mats that make it hard to maneuver a wheelchair and can snag crutches and canes.



Use reachers to pick up items on high shelves or in the back of a refrigerator.



Cut a notch in the end and side of a long wood stick for pulling out and pushing in hot oven racks.



Attach a looped strap to handles to help people with weak or limited grasp and to aid service dogs.

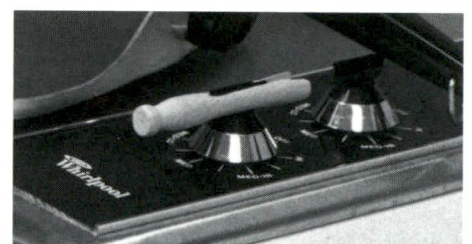


Use zippered mesh bags to keep small clothing items within easy reach. The bag can go straight from the washer to the dryer.

Use tongs, available in a variety of sizes and types, to extend reach.



Use a metal potato masher to reach and turn rear-mounted control knobs.



Slip a clothespin over fin-type knobs to enlarge the gripping area.



Use vinyl jar grippers, available from local supermarkets, to help grip knobs.

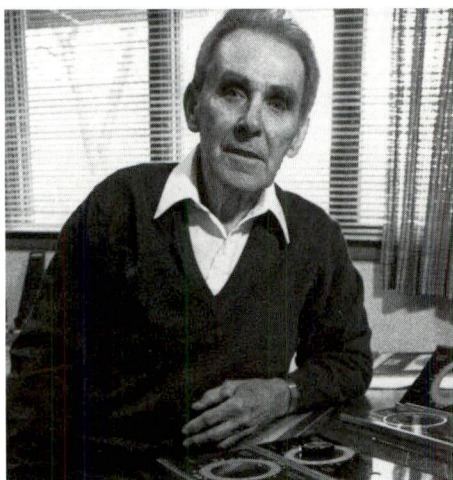
Install a tape recorder so family members can leave each other instructions or homeowners can listen to talking cookbooks and Use and Care Guides.



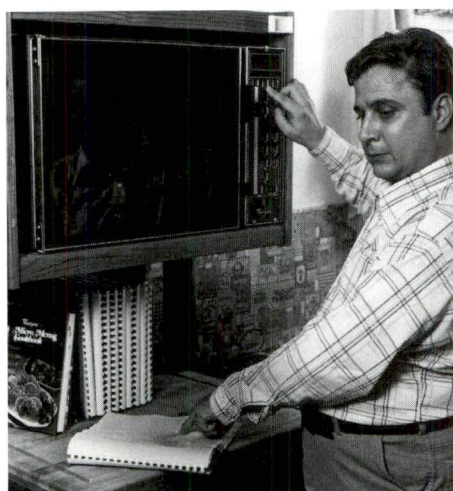
Stagger the height of a washer and dryer to make them easy to reach into from a wheelchair.

Helpful tools available from Whirlpool — FREE.

Since 1981, Whirlpool Corporation has been providing appliance buyers with free kits and materials that make kitchen and laundry appliances easier to use. Here is a list of helpful tools you can request for free.



Folks like retired Whirlpool employee Phil Wagner and volunteer Caralynn Pender are part of a team of people helping Whirlpool provide free braille controls, guides and cookbooks.



Braille overlays and controls.

Special controls and clear overlays let cooks read information on the appliance in braille, without covering up the printed text for household members capable of seeing.



"Universal Design Kitchen" video tape and book.

"Universal Design Kitchens" select appliances and materials that help make kitchens barrier-free and adaptable for use by children, parents and grandparents.

To borrow the "Universal Design Kitchen" video, send a postcard to:

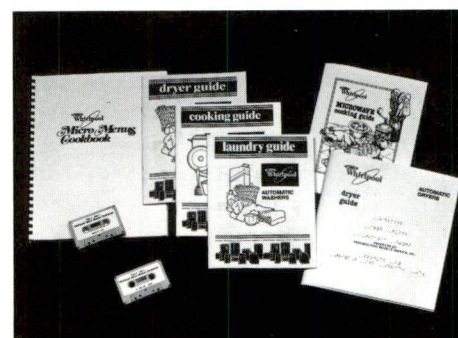
Carolyn Verweyst
Appliance Information Service
Whirlpool Corporation, M/S 4300
Benton Harbor, MI 49022-9908

The tape is VHS format and runs approximately 5 minutes.



"Easy Grip" control knob covers.

Strokes, arthritis and other conditions can reduce the strength in your hands. The "Easy Grip" knob fits over most Whirlpool washer and dryer control knobs to provide a better gripping surface for turning.



Special books and audio tapes.

Large-print, braille and audio-cassette versions of Whirlpool Use and Care Guides provide an excellent alternative to standard-type operation manuals. Helpful brochures are also available in these formats. Choose from **Microwave Cooking Guide** or **Range Cooking Guide** for cooking ideas; **Microwave Menus Cookbook** for tasty recipes; **Washer Guide** for removing tough stains; and **Dryer Guide** for tips on drying special items.

Ordering your **FREE** kits.

To get your free "Easy Grip" knob, overlay or literature kit, send a copy of your sales receipt along with your request to:

Whirlpool Corporation
Appliance Information Service
#4300

Benton Harbor, MI 49022

Or call the Consumer Assistance Center at
1-800-253-1301.

When you call or write, you will need to provide the name of the person from whom you purchased the appliance and the appliance model number. This number is printed on the appliance serial/rating plate.

Order kits for these models:

Nearly all Whirlpool appliances can be modified. Kits are currently available for the models listed below. **If the model number of your appliance is NOT listed, call us. We can develop a kit for you.**

Product	Model number	Braille	Big Type	Audio Tape
Microwave oven and convection microwave oven	MW1500XP MW8500XP MW3500XP	Overlay Use & Care Cookbook	Use & Care Cookbook	Use & Care Cookbook
Dryer	LE6100XS LE6150XS LG6101XS LG6151XS	Overlay Use & Care		Use & Care
Washer	LA5100XS LA6150XS	Overlay Use & Care		Use & Care
Dishwasher	DU8500XT	Overlay Use & Care	Use & Care	Use & Care
Range	RF3010XP RF3210XP	Controls Use & Care Cooking Guide	Use & Care Cooking Guide	Use & Care Cooking Guide
Refrigerator	ET18AKXR ET14AKXS ET16AKXS ED26MMXR EB19MKXR	Overlay Use & Care	Use & Care	Use & Care

**Where to find additional
information and help.**

There are many local organizations in communities throughout the United States who can help you find additional help and information. We also recommend contacting these national organizations for information on specific topics of interests.

Appliance Information

Your best source for help in modifying a major home appliance is its manufacturer. If you do not have the name and telephone number of the company that manufactured your appliance, write to:

Association of Home Appliance Manufacturers (AHAM)

20 North Wacker Drive, Chicago, IL 60606

For Whirlpool appliance information call the Whirlpool Consumer Assistance Center, toll-free, at 1-800-253-1301, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week (including holidays). Translators are available for non-English speaking callers. (All languages can be tied into the AT & T Language Line.) Or call toll-free, 1-800-334-6889 to communicate by a Telecommunication Device for the Deaf (TDD).

Trained operators are on staff at both numbers to answer your questions.

Social Organizations

Accent Information

P.O. Box 700, Bloomington, IL 61702

1-309-378-2961

A computer retrieval system of products and services for living more effective lives.

American Amputee Foundation

Box 250218, Hillcrest Station

Little Rock, AR 72225

1-501-666-2523

Information and financial assistance for modifying homes of people who have had a limb amputated or a spinal injury.

American Foundation for the Blind

15 West 16th Street, New York, NY 10011

1-800-AF-BLIND or 1-212-620-2000

Bibliography of talking books available by contacting library at above address. Paid consultants/engineers are available through National Technology Center for advice on special product designs and product/appliance modifications.

Amputees in Motion

P.O. Box 2703, Escondido, CA 92033

1-619-454-9300

Information on home aids for people who have had a limb amputated.

Architectural and Transportation Barriers Compliance Board

1111 18th Street S.W., Suite 501

Washington, D.C. 20202

1-800-872-2253

Information on compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act.

Arthritis Foundation, Inc.

1314 Spring Street N.W., Atlanta, GA 30309

1-404-872-7100

Information on equipment and remodeling homes for people with arthritis.

Canine Companions for Independence

P.O. Box 446, Santa Rosa, CA 95402-0446

1-707-528-0830

Information on dogs and cats trained to assist people.

Information Center for Individuals with Disabilities

Ft. Point Place, 27-43 Wormwood St.

Boston, MA 02210

1-617-727-5540

Information on housing, architectural accessibility and equipment.

National Barrier Awareness Foundation

1-707-545-1219

Information on making places barrier-free.

National Easter Seal Society

70 E. Lake Street, Chicago, IL 60601

1-312-726-6200

Provides information about local organization offices.

National Head Injury Foundation

1140 Connecticut Ave. NW

Washington, D.C. 20036

1-800-444-6443

Provides a catalog of devices to assist with memory, learning, self-care and housekeeping.

National Institute for Rehabilitation Engineering

P.O. Box T, Hewitt, NJ 07421

1-201-853-6585

Specializes in helping people who have severe, unusual or multiple physical limitations. A team of electronic engineers, physicists, psychologists, optometrists and other volunteers review the person's capabilities, disabilities and task-performance goals to recommend and implement programs that will increase the person's performance. People will not be denied services due to an inability to pay. Includes geriatric rehabilitation.

National Organization on Disability

910 16th St. North West
Washington, D.C. 20006

1-800-248-ABLE

Clearing house for information on how to make public places accessible.

PAM Assistance Center

601 W. Maple, Lansing, MI 48906

1-800-274-7426.

Information clearing house on devices available to make home living easier.

Research and Training Center on Independent Living

University of Kansas, Room 4089 Dole

Lawrence, KS 66045

1-913-864-4095

Training, consulting and publications library for independent living by people with multiple/severe physical limitations.

U.S. Department of Justice

1-202-514-0301

Information on accessibility requirements, barrier removal, auxiliary aids and services.

Helpful publications

In addition to the free literature provided by the organizations and associations above, several companies and services provide publications that may also be helpful to builders and homeowners.

Accent on Living

Quarterly magazine featuring information, products, and services for living more effectively. Accent on Living, Inc.: 1-309-378-2961.

Give me tools and I'll do the job.

A videotape on tools and equipment that make work easy for the handicapped; including mouthsticks that enable people to turn pages, unload and load software and perform other tasks. Extensions for Independence: 1-619-423-7709.

How to Create Interiors for Disabled

Book. Jane Randolph Cary. Pantheon, 1978.

Journal of the Association of Persons with Severe Handicaps

Quarterly publication promoting dignified living and quality education for people from birth through adulthood. TASH: 1-206-523-8446.

Making Life More Livable

Pamphlet on adapting a home for use by someone with low or no vision. American Foundation for the Blind: 1-800-AF-BLIND.

Paraplegia News

Monthly newsletter for U.S. veterans who have incurred an injury or disease affecting the spinal cord or causing paralysis. Paralyzed Veterans of America: 1-202-872-1300.

Paws for a Cause

Quarterly publication on using dogs to help owners with selective tasks. Support Dogs for the Handicapped: 1-314-394-6163.

Planning, Creating and Financing Housing for the Handicapped

Book. Roberta Nelson-Walker. C.C. Thomas, 1981.

Responsible Hospitality Institute Bulletin

Monthly publication concerned with making restaurants and hospitality businesses accessible by people using wheelchairs. RHI: 1-800-443-7277.

Tax Information for Handicapped and Disabled Individuals

A brochure (Service Publication No. 907) about disabled access tax credits and tax deductions for the removal of architectural barriers. Internal Revenue Service: 1-800-829-3676 (or contact your local IRS office).

Technology for Independent Living

A source book of information on applying technology and science to the improvement of assistive devices and equipment. RESNA: 1-202-857-1199.

Thanks.

Supplies for the kitchen set were provided by Triangle Pacific Corporation (cabinets), Kohler Co. (sink and faucets), Armstrong (flooring), and Rev-A-Shelf, Inc. (recycling bins).

In addition, much of the information in this guide was provided by the National Kitchen and Bath Association, Andrews University Rehabilitation Services and the National Home Builders Association.

We're pleased that they were willing to share their useful planning and design information with you.



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