



# Veteran Built Homes – Aging in Place Home Safety Checklist

This checklist is designed to help homeowners identify improvements that make their homes safer, more comfortable, and easier to live in as they age. It incorporates guidelines from industry-leading trade associations, including the National Association of Home Builders (NAHB), National Association of the Remodeling Industry (NARI), and the National Aging in Place Council (NAIPC). Use this list as a starting point for your Aging in Place project planning.

## Entry & Exterior

- No-step entry or ramp with slip-resistant surface
- Covered entry to protect from weather
- Well-lit pathway and entry with motion-sensor lighting
- House numbers visible and well-lit
- Low-maintenance landscaping to reduce trip hazards

## Doorways & Hallways

- Minimum 36-inch wide doorways
- Lever-style door handles for easier grip
- Hallways at least 42 inches wide
- Smooth, level flooring transitions between rooms

## Living Spaces

- Clear pathways at least 36 inches wide
- Non-slip area rugs with secure backing
- Easy-to-reach light switches and outlets
- Rocker or touch light switches
- Adequate, even lighting throughout

## Kitchen

- Pull-down shelving or adjustable-height cabinets
- D-shaped cabinet handles for easier grip
- Side-by-side refrigerator/freezer
- Pull-out work surfaces and cutting boards
- Task lighting over counters and stove

## Bathroom

- Curbless or low-threshold shower with slip-resistant floor
- Handheld shower head with slide bar
- Sturdy grab bars near toilet and shower
- Comfort-height toilet (17–19 inches)
- Lever-style faucet handles



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## Stairs & Multi-Level Homes

- Handrails on both sides of stairs
- Non-slip stair treads
- Well-lit stairways with light switches at top and bottom
- Consider adding a stair lift if needed

## Safety & Technology

- Smoke and carbon monoxide detectors on every level
- Easy-to-use security system
- Smart home controls for lighting and temperature
- Medical alert system if desired

**Disclaimer:** This checklist is intended as a general guide and may not cover every safety or accessibility consideration for your home. **Attribution:** Portions of this checklist are adapted from resources by the National Association of Home Builders (NAHB), National Association of the Remodeling Industry (NARI), and the National Aging in Place Council (NAIPC).