

New Construction Talk...

Build a Retirement-Ready Home and Keep Your Independence for Years

Planning on maintaining an independent and mobile lifestyle throughout your senior years? Building a new home with these “Aging in Place” (AIP) features may be the wisest retirement investment you ever make:

Front Entry: Wide, well-lit pathways for walking side-by-side. No steps or slippery surfaces. A wide front door with a low threshold to accommodate a wheelchair, with plenty of clear space on the pull side, and an exterior package shelf at waist level.

Garage: Wider door to make entry and exit easier, with space to maneuver on the sides and get out comfortably into a wheelchair.

Kitchen: Counters at 34 inches with space underneath so they can be used from a seated position. Space cut out under the cooktop and knobs that are reachable when seated.

Lighting: All light switches placed at 44-inch height. Windows and sun tunnels flood the home with natural light to eliminate shadows that cause falls. Contrasting colors show differentiations in level changes, edges, hot, cold, or danger. Path lighting to illuminate hallways and lighting to illuminate all counter surfaces and inside cabinets.

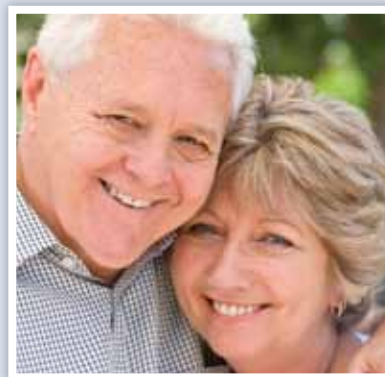
Bedroom: Closets with height-adjustable bars, and grab handles on walls near bed. Outlets and thermostat at 44-inch height. Wide entries to bathroom and hallway from bedroom.

Bathrooms: Fitted with out-turning doors and specifically

designed bathing facilities. Counters set at 34 inches with space for pulling a wheelchair up underneath. To make up for lack of under counter cabinetry, a closet accessed through bi-fold doors.

Don't worry – these features won't make your home look like a nursing home. In fact, today's qualified builders can design AIP features that blend in beautifully with your home's design and add to its market value.

The best time to build a retirement-ready home is before it's too late. Talk with a Certified Aging-in-Place Specialist and get the necessary expertise you need. At Bella Vista Company, we have earned this designation and have the experience to answer any questions you may have. Feel free to call us today, even if your retirement is years away.



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