



# Home Access

Everyone can benefit from improved access to their home. Do you have difficulty bringing your shopping inside or moving furniture from room to room? Homes with steps, narrow passageways, internal stairs and small bathrooms can create barriers in your home and can affect your ability to perform day-to-day activities.

## What access features are important in a home?

Location of the home itself is important, including its distance to shops and transport. However, there is much more to consider. How you live in and move around your home is also important. Here are some design features you could ask for from your real estate agent when looking for a property to buy or rent:

- Are there less than 3 steps into a main entrance to the home?
- Does the entrance provide access to the main living areas such as a bathroom, living room, kitchen and a bedroom?
- Are there steps between or within the main living areas?
- Are there wide doorways and hallways? For example, are they wide enough for a pram or wheelchair?
- Are the toilet and shower in the same room?
- Is the shower step free?
- Homes can be made even easier to live in with home modifications, minor fixtures and fittings, or portable equipment items.

## Queensland Home Adapt Loan

This low fixed-interest rate loan offers financial assistance to eligible homeowners who require home modifications for either themselves or a household member. Loans can range between \$5,000 and \$30,000 for eligible applicants.

Information on the loan is available from the Department of Housing's toll free Loan Information hotline. Call 1300 654 322 Monday to Friday, 8.30 am to 5pm or email [loaninformation@housing.qld.gov.au](mailto:loaninformation@housing.qld.gov.au).

## What is Home Access?

Home Access is an initiative of the Queensland Department of Housing which aims to increase the options for people to find or modify properties that better meet their access needs in Queensland's private housing market. The department is working closely with real estate agents to improve access information on either rented or owner occupied properties.

## How do I find out more about Home Access?

See the contact details on this fact sheet and ask to receive our e-newsletter.

If you are calling the **National Relay Service** 133 677 (textphone and modem callers) or **Speech to Speech Relay** 1300 555 727, please ask for telephone number 07 3238 3996.

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