



UNIVERSAL DESIGN PRINCIPLES

While America cherishes its diversity, we cannot deny the common link that transcends our varied cultures, backgrounds and socio-economic status—the fact that we will all grow older.

And while many of us may automatically turn to assisted living or nursing home care, most of us would prefer—when given the choice—to stay in our own homes for as long as possible.

Eskaton has heard this call for independence, and responded with the Eskaton National Demonstration Home—which marries universal design, home and healthcare technologies, and green features to provide a beautiful, functional home for seniors in every stage of life.

Below are definitions, guidelines and examples of universal design principles, and how these principles are integrated into the Eskaton National Demonstration Home, allowing older adults to keep what matters most—their independence.

1 **EQUITABLE USE**

The design is useful and marketable to people with diverse abilities

ESKATON DEMONSTRATION HOME ELEMENTS

- Wider doors and hallways
- Zero threshold shower with integrated tile bench

2 **FLEXIBILITY IN USE**

The design accommodates a wide range of individual preferences and abilities

ESKATON DEMONSTRATION HOME ELEMENTS

- Multiple height work surfaces
- Backing placed in walls for future installation of support bars

3 **SIMPLE AND INTUITIVE USE**

Use of the design is easy to understand regardless of the user's experience, knowledge, language skills or current concentration level

ESKATON DEMONSTRATION HOME ELEMENTS

- Touch screen computer monitors
- Occupancy sensor lighting

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4 PERCEPTIBLE INFORMATION

The design communicates necessary information effectively to the user, regardless of ambient conditions or the user's sensory abilities

ESKATON DEMONSTRATION HOME ELEMENTS

- Security system integrated with visual and audible cues
- Wellness alerts sent via email, phone and monitor

5 TOLERANCE FOR ERROR

The design minimizes hazards and the adverse consequences of accidental or unintended actions

ESKATON DEMONSTRATION HOME ELEMENTS

- Anti-scald devices
- Induction cooktop
- Self-adjusting brain fitness program

6 LOW PHYSICAL EFFORT

The design can be used efficiently and comfortably and with a minimum of fatigue

ESKATON DEMONSTRATION HOME ELEMENTS

- Lever door handles and faucets
- Zero step entries and thresholds

7 SIZE AND SPACE FOR APPROACH AND USE

Appropriate size and space is provided for approach, reach, manipulation and use regardless of user's body size, posture or mobility

ESKATON DEMONSTRATION HOME ELEMENTS

- Accessible under cabinet access in kitchen and bathroom
- Extra clearance around kitchen island for easy movement and circulation