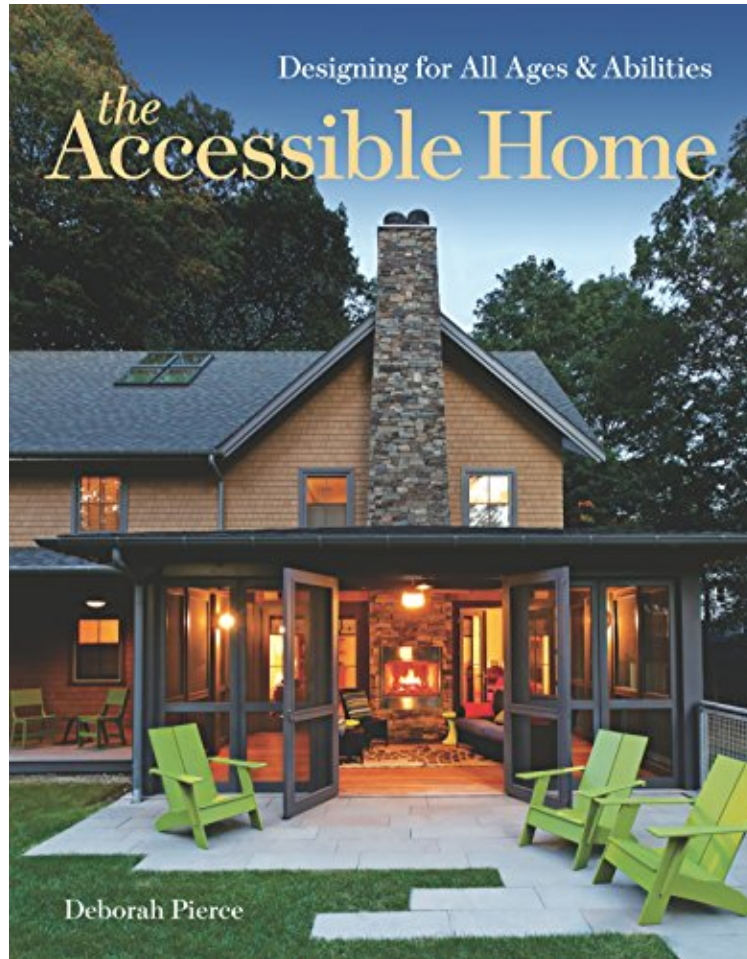


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## The Accessible Home: Designing for All Ages and Abilities

*Deborah Pierce*

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**Deborah Pierce : The Accessible Home: Designing for All Ages and Abilities** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Accessible Home: Designing for All Ages and Abilities:

7 of 7 people found the following review helpful. Better Late Than Never...By Bill YThis book is fantastic. I wish I'd have had it a few years back when I did a remodel on my house. Since then I've had some medical issues and don't have wheelchair access to the entire back half of my house. This book has alot of outstanding ideas and photo examples. I read it cover-to-cover and plan to do that again in an attempt to regain access.3 of 3 people found the following review helpful. Excellent images and thoughtful ideas that provoke further questionsBy Fire BoyMy wife has MS. I am a carpenter. The pictures, captions and text provide inspirational (yet often expensive) architectural options that could be pursued during remodel or new construction. It would be great if the next edition provided "motorized" options that raised and lowered sinks and counter methodologies, as reinventing the wheel is expensive

and time-consuming business. Suppliers of these options deliver a paucity of details from which might be pillaged lower-cost options by the owner/builder. 2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Fantastic universal design inspiration By ItsRachel Although the pictures are all of high-end custom homes, there are design ideas that are applicable to any dwelling. I haven't seen any other book that addresses all the different aspects of using well planned design in order to enhance the livability of any space for all users. I've worked with people with disabilities for over a decade and I still picked up a few tips for my own bathroom remodel in order to future-proof my home against any limitations that age or injury might bring to my family.

"One of the best new guides I have run across to achieve this goal is *The Accessible Home: Designing for All Ages Abilities*, by Deborah Pierce. The structure of this handbook is smart Meg White, REALTOR Magazine I found myself paging through *The Accessible Home*, foraging for ideas for my own home--having forgotten that this was a specialized book only for those with disabilities. Lee Wallender, About.com Guide, Home Renovations "As author, Deborah Pierce understands and conveys it, universal design aims at creating buildings and spaces that allow use by the disabled and able-bodied alike." - The Detroit News "A terrific guide" The Wall Street Journal Millions of baby boomers are approaching the golden years. While its a marker worth celebrating, it can also be a reminder of uncertain times ahead. How will I manage? Can I stay in my home? *The Accessible Home* goes beyond ramps and grab-bars to help aging boomers, or those faced with disabilities, accomplish home accessibility on a deeper level. With a focus on closing the gap between home and homeowner, architect Deborah Pierce leads readers through the steps of universal design from hiring the right architect to creating a pleasing space with the final details. Plus, an insiders look at 25 case studies shows that the best design is built in, not tacked on, and that accessible can be both beautiful and functional. *The Accessible Home* empowers people of all ages and challenges them to create homes that restore independence and the grace of daily living.

Deborah Pierce tackles the small problems along with the large in her quest to make wonderful places where people with disabilities can live comfortably and safely. Her thoughtful case studies are full of helpful ideas, many of them little things that make a world of difference to a disabled person. More than that, however, she sets her sights on creating houses that are beautiful, comfortable, and convivial for the entire family and their guests. That is one of the most gratifying accomplishments for any architect. I commend her on this insightful book, which will prove useful--and accessible--to the public and professionals alike. --Michael Graves, FAIA The home of the future will be a place for people of all ages and abilities - designed with transparent functionality and an inviting, universal aesthetic. Until then, "*The Accessible Home*" stands as the roadmap to the universal home. Deborah Pierce presents an elegant overview of the accessibility basics to show homeowners a menu of options -- urban, suburban and even rural. The book celebrates independence, comfort and graceful living; it empowers people to become involved in the evolution of home design. Sam Maddox, Knowledge Manager, The Christopher and Dana Reeve Foundation Deborah Pierce has created an inspired, beautiful, and practical book. "*The Accessible Home*" will be appreciated by the person/family newly struggling with the realities of changes in her, his, or their abilities as well as the experienced designer needing guidance. I've been reviewing and critiquing books on accessible design for 30 years; this is the most complete home design book I've ever seen. It illustrates the alchemy that occurs in a respectful partnership between designers and their clients. --Elaine Ostroff, Hon. AIA, Founding Director, Institute for Human Centered Design (Adaptive Environments) Inspiring, visionary, and yet totally down to earth. This is a must-read for anyone designing the home of a lifetime. --Hugh This book is a gem. It provides an excellent framework for the design of living spaces that accommodate the practical needs of people with various special needs in a dignified, functional and stylish manner. The case studies presented are inspiring examples of how creative, thoughtful design can be both beautiful and empowering for individuals with physical and other limitations. - Eileen Komanecky - Founder, simpleHome, technology resources for smart homes "*The Accessible Home*" is a comprehensive approach to designing living spaces for people with disabilities from an individualized perspective. It is especially gratifying to see detailed attention paid to the often misunderstood or overgeneralized needs of active lifestyle wheelchair users. I've been waiting to see a book like this for a long time. -- Tim Gilmer, Editor, "New Mobility" magazine About the Author DEBORAH PIERCE, AIA, is founding partner, project architect, and firm manager of Pierce Lamb Architects in Newton, Massachusetts. Architectural accessibility has been a special focus of Deborah's work since the firm's inception. As national chair of the AIA Advisory Group for Small Project Practitioners, she has raised awareness for Universal Design in private residences through the AIA's Small Project Design Awards program and a 2010 National Convention seminar. She is also a frequent lecturer on the hot topic of accessibility.