

BETTER BATHROOMS

One of the most essential rooms in the house, the bathroom can be a dangerous space that can become difficult to navigate for seniors and people with vision impairment. A few quick fixes, such as installing grab bars in the tub, can go a long way. Here are a few tips to make the bathroom a safe room for the homeowner.

ITEM	WHAT TO LOOK FOR	QUICK FIX
<input type="checkbox"/> Accessibility	Clear path and easy access to and from toilet and tub, grab bars	Remove unnecessary items that cause clutter
<input type="checkbox"/> Rugs and Flooring	Loose rugs	Remove rugs from floor or put carpet adhesive tape under rugs
<input type="checkbox"/> Toilets	Toilet that is too low for homeowner to use easily	Install raised toilet seat
<input type="checkbox"/> Faucets	Type of knobs	Replace faucet handles with bars or levers, add grips to handles and label knobs clearly
<input type="checkbox"/> Personal Care Items	Unlabeled items	Label all items with bump dots, large print or braille

While some hazards can be alleviated with a “quick fix,” many issues will require a more substantial solution. For assistance, dial 2-1-1. If the home requires additional work, or if you’ve encountered something that you think could be a potential hazard that is not listed here, contact Rebuilding Together Pittsburgh at 412-922-0953. For vision related issues or questions, call Blind and Vision Rehabilitation Services of Pittsburgh at 412-368-4400.