



## *A home to last a lifetime*



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Sometimes an idea comes along that's so good, we wonder why we didn't think of it earlier. Universal Green Design is such an idea. Universal Green Design is a long-term approach to building and remodeling that combines environmentally sustainable elements of green building with the flexibility of universal design.

The goal is simple: make products and places adaptable to people of all shapes, sizes and abilities. Universal Green Design includes functional elements that accommodate all generations over time. It offers ideas for remodeling or building so that your house will remain your home, even if your lifestyle changes. Many people want to remain in their homes safely, independently and comfortably, regardless of age, income or ability. Universal Green Design helps make that possible.

Many Universal Green Design features are inexpensive or no-cost. Including them in your home plans or adding them during a remodel can be cost-effective over the years, helping ensure you stay in your home.

*For more information, visit  
[www.clark.wa.gov/aging](http://www.clark.wa.gov/aging)*

## *Imagine...*

- A home that will meet your changing needs as you grow older
- A home your friends and family can comfortably visit
- A home where people of all abilities, ages and sizes can thrive
- A home that will be cost-efficient because it is energy-efficient
- A home that will provide safe, seamless living across the decades



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**Here are some of the basics for a Universal Green Design home:**

- Plenty of open floor space to maneuver
- Extra wide doorways and hallways
- Zero-step entrances
- Non-slip flooring or flat-pile carpeting
- Energy-efficient appliances with easy-to-read, easy-to-operate controls
- Lever door handles and faucets
- Rocker-type light switches
- Energy-efficient windows that open easily
- Water-saving shower heads, faucets and toilets
- Easy access to electrical outlets
- Main-floor, open plan living



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