

Environmental Guidance Checklist

This checklist covers some of the areas to be considered. No checklist can ever be complete, but will depend on the building being assessed, its environmental features and the needs of the specific people who live there.

ISSUE	DETAILS	YES	NO	NOT APPL	ACTION NEEDED
Calm	Is external noise an issue? Give details:				
	Is internal noise a problem?				
	Is the noise coming from people?				
	Is the noise from TV/ music?				
	Is the noise from telephones?				
	Other noise - give details				
	Are the colours used appropriate?				

ISSUE	DETAILS	YES	NO	NOT APPL	ACTION NEEDED
Predictable and making sense	Are rooms used for a single function and is that function clear?				
	If there is dual or multiple use, are different cues used to help the person identify which activity they are doing?				
	Is the same room used consistently for a specific activity?				
	Is there good signposting for specific rooms at the right height for older people (no more than 4 foot from ground)?				
	Are multiple clues to rooms used?				
	Are visual cues used to help people identify rooms?				
	Is the home consistent with no sudden surprises?				
	Are fire doors appropriately camouflaged?				

ISSUE	DETAILS	YES	NO	NOT APPL	ACTION NEEDED
Predictable and making sense	Are there good colour contrasts between the walls, flooring and furniture?				
	Are the wall colours bright in tone?				
Familiar	Are the furnishings small scale, domestic and homely?				
	Are objects/pictures used to help orientation?				
	Are objects ordinary and traditional in style?				
Suitably stimulating	Are there clear views of the outside world?				
	Is the noise level appropriate?				
Safe	Are all exits monitored and/or alarmed?				
	Is the garden safe for wandering?				
	Are all fire risks considered?				
	Is the temperature of the water in the kitchen, bathrooms and toilets controlled?				

ISSUE	DETAILS	YES	NO	NOT APPL	ACTION NEEDED
Safe	Are there dangers from stairs, steps or uneven surfaces?				
	Are there possible hazards e.g. sharp corners, knives, hot kettles?				
	Is there access via windows?				
AREA OF BUILDING	DETAILS	YES	NO	NOT APPL	ACTION NEEDED
General issues	Are sharp corners protected?				
	Can the building incorporate additional features e.g. lift?				
	Is there sufficient space for wheelchair use?				
	Are there handrails along all corridors at an appropriate height?				
	Are there slopes instead of steps?				
	Are there timers for lights?				

AREA OF BUILDING	DETAILS	YES	NO	NOT APPL	ACTION NEEDED
General issues	Do lights cast shadows that can look like holes?				
	Are daylight bulbs needed?				
	Is non-reflective glass used in photos/pictures?				
	Are non-fluorescent lights used?				
	Are doors to different rooms labelled/painted to help orientation?				
	Are door signs understood by the residents?				
	Are door signs positioned at an appropriate height for the residents?				
	Does the floor covering colour flow naturally from room to room?				
	Are the walls painted/papered appropriately?				
	Are all external doors monitored/alarmed?				
	Are the colours used 'light enhancing'?				

AREA OF BUILDING	DETAILS	YES	NO	NOT APPL	ACTION NEEDED
Kitchen	Is the kitchen easy to find? Does it have appropriate door signage present?				
	Is the floor non-shiny and non-slip?				
	Are all appliances visible and not hidden behind doors?				
	Are there separate hot and cold taps?				
	Is the temperature of the water controlled?				
	Can items in the kitchen be easily located?				
	Are kettles traditional in style?				
	Are knives stored safely?				
	Is the cooker traditional?				
	Are cupboards/drawers easily opened?				

AREA OF BUILDING	DETAILS	YES	NO	NOT APPL	ACTION NEEDED
Bathroom	Is there sufficient space for assisting the person e.g. if a hoist/wheelchair is used?				
	Are suitable bathing aids/equipment installed?				
	Are there separate hot and cold taps?				
	Is the temperature of the water controlled?				
	Is the floor non-shiny and non-slip?				
	Is the bath mat the same colour as the floor?				
	Is there a contrasting colour toilet seat e.g. red?				
	Is the toilet door red or does it have a red strip painted on it?				
	Is the wall behind the toilet painted a contrasting colour e.g. yellow?				
	Is the edge of the sink clearly highlighted?				
	Are there coloured handrails around the toilet?				

AREA OF BUILDING	DETAILS	YES	NO	NOT APPL	ACTION NEEDED
Bathroom	Are there contrasting colour towels?				
Living room	Is the floor covering appropriate?				
	Is there a clear path for wandering?				
	Are rugs needed/safe?				
	Is the lighting appropriate?				
	Does the flooring contrast with the furniture?				
	Are curtains traditional in style?				
	Is the toilet easily visible and accessible from the living room?				
	Is the room used for more than one purpose?				
	Is there seating which has high/hard arms and that are high backed and the right height from the ground?				
	Is the floor covering appropriate?				

AREA OF BUILDING	DETAILS	YES	NO	NOT APPL	ACTION NEEDED
Living room	Are there traditional square/rectangular dining tables?				
	Is there clear leg space under the tables to make them easy to use?				
	Are tables positioned so that people have room to move freely?				
Bedroom	Are mirrors covered at night?				
	Is the room sufficiently dark at night?				
	Are curtains traditional in style and able to keep out the light?				
	Is the lighting appropriate?				
	Does the flooring contrast with the furniture?				
	Is the toilet easily visible and accessible from the bedroom?				
	Can the person find their belongings easily?				

AREA OF BUILDING	DETAILS	YES	NO	NOT APPL	ACTION NEEDED
Bedroom	Is there an adapted bed present?				
Garden/external	Is there a safe circular wandering path?				
	Are the plants/trees safe?				
	Are the plants stimulating e.g. herbs/sensory				
	Is there an area of hard paving?				
	Is the garden secure?				
	Is there safe seating?				
	Are there slopes rather than steps from doorways?				
	Are there non-slippery/shiny surfaces?				
	Are sheds kept securely fastened?				