

Universal Design Kitchen

One solution that works for...

EVERYONE

Presented by

Department of Consumer Sciences

School of Allied Medical Professions

Ohio State University Extension Service

Lowe's Home Improvement Stores

Dave Fox Remodeling



Universal Design...eliminates the distinction between people with disabilities and the rest of society by suggesting that one good solution can meet the needs of a broad range of users (Trachtman et. al.)



Basic Concepts for Comfortable Kitchen Work Areas

- Multiple Heights for Work Counters
- Easy Reach and Use Appliances/Fixtures
- Easy Reach and Use Storage
- Safe and Easy Maintenance Materials
- Easy Grip and Use Hardware

Work Heights

Since not everyone is the same height, their work heights also need to be different

Universal Design Solution

Your best counter work height should be 3" shorter than your standing elbow height



Universal *Design*





Standard counter height
is 36”

However you can
purchase cabinets for a
34” work counter height
or easily adapt standard
cabinets for 38” counter
heights



A standard table at a
30” height can also be
used to sit to work or
for shorter workers in
the kitchen

34" -36" -38"

What
difference does
it make?



If counters are
too high:

Watch for pain
across the
shoulder and
upper back



If counters
are too low:

Watch for
lower back
pain

Multi-level Work Counters



When planning work counters consider a range from 30" to 42" depending upon family structure.

At least one section of the counter should be 30" for small children or persons who want to sit to work



Multi-level Work Heights

Pull out Cutting boards can be placed in base cabinets for lower work areas in smaller kitchens



Appliances: Easy Reach and Use

- Front controls
- Smart appliances
- Front loading



Smaller, multi-placement of refrigerators and dishwashers



Easy Reach Refrigerators



Easy Use Faucets



Advances in Placement of Appliances



The easy reach zone is between 18" and 48" from the floor

Sink and cook top cabinets are available with removable front doors for sitting to work



Motorized adjustable cabinet pieces are available to use with sinks and cook tops

Storage: Easy Reach and Use Features



Cabinetry: Easy Use Features



Cabinetry: Easy Use Features

Easy reach storage can be purchased separately and installed in existing cabinets



Materials: Easy Use and Care

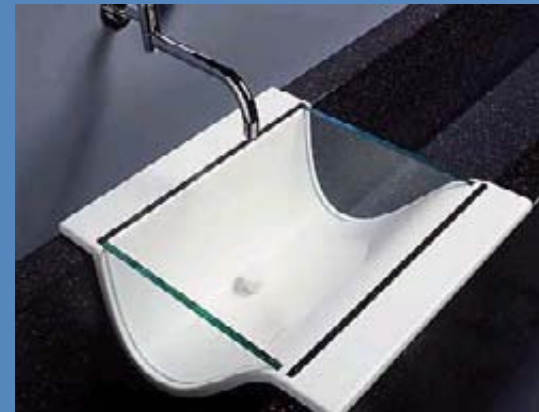
Acrylic Solid Surface Counters and Sinks



Color Contrast

Custom Design

Easy Maintenance



Materials: Easy Use and Care Flooring

Cork



Laminate



Vinyl



Controls: Easy Use



Easy
touch
controls



Remote
controls

Hardware



Easy Grip or No Grip

Small Appliance and Tools too!



Try Something New!

Your kitchen could become a place for living easy.....



Credits

- College of Human Ecology
 - Departments of Consumer Sciences; Human Development & Family Science
- OSU Extension – Family & Consumer Sciences
- School of Allied Medical Professionals
- Lowe's Home Improvement Warehouse
- Dave Fox Remodeling