

Top Five Reasons to Hire a Certified Aging-in-Place Specialist (CAPS)

1. You will be working with a professional who values the importance of ongoing education and training and is willing to invest the time and money necessary to stay current on aging-in-place issues.
2. A CAPS works closely with remodelers and health professionals, such as occupational therapists, who understand the challenges of aging and can provide safe, attractive and accessible modifications to your home.
3. Your CAPS is a credible professional with a helpful network of other aging-in-place experts such as therapists, Veterans Administration officials and product suppliers who can serve as additional resources.
4. Should you ever choose to sell your modified home, your CAPS' influence can make your home more marketable.
5. Modifying your home with a CAPS can potentially be less expensive than alternative arrangements in the future.

Find a Certified Aging-in-Place Specialist in your community at

nahb.org/capsdirectory



Make Your House a Home For a Lifetime

Hire a Certified Aging-in-Place Specialist



What Is Aging-In-Place?

Aging-in-place means being able to remain in one's home safely, independently and comfortably regardless of age, income or ability level. It means the pleasure of living in a familiar environment throughout one's maturing years and the ability to enjoy the daily rituals and the special events that enrich all our lives. It means being able to call your house a "home" for a lifetime.

How Long Do You Plan to Live in Your Current Home?

If you are like the majority of Americans over the age of 45, you want to continue living in your same home and community throughout your maturing years. According to AARP, older home owners overwhelmingly prefer to stay close to family and friends in an environment to which they've grown accustomed over many years.

How to Modify Your Home in Order to Age in Place

To age in place, you will probably need to make alterations to your home to improve safety, access and maneuverability. These modifications could include installing bath/shower grab bars, adjusting countertop heights, increasing lighting, adding an elevator or creating multifunctional first floor master suites.

Why Hire a Certified Aging-in-Place Specialist (CAPS)?

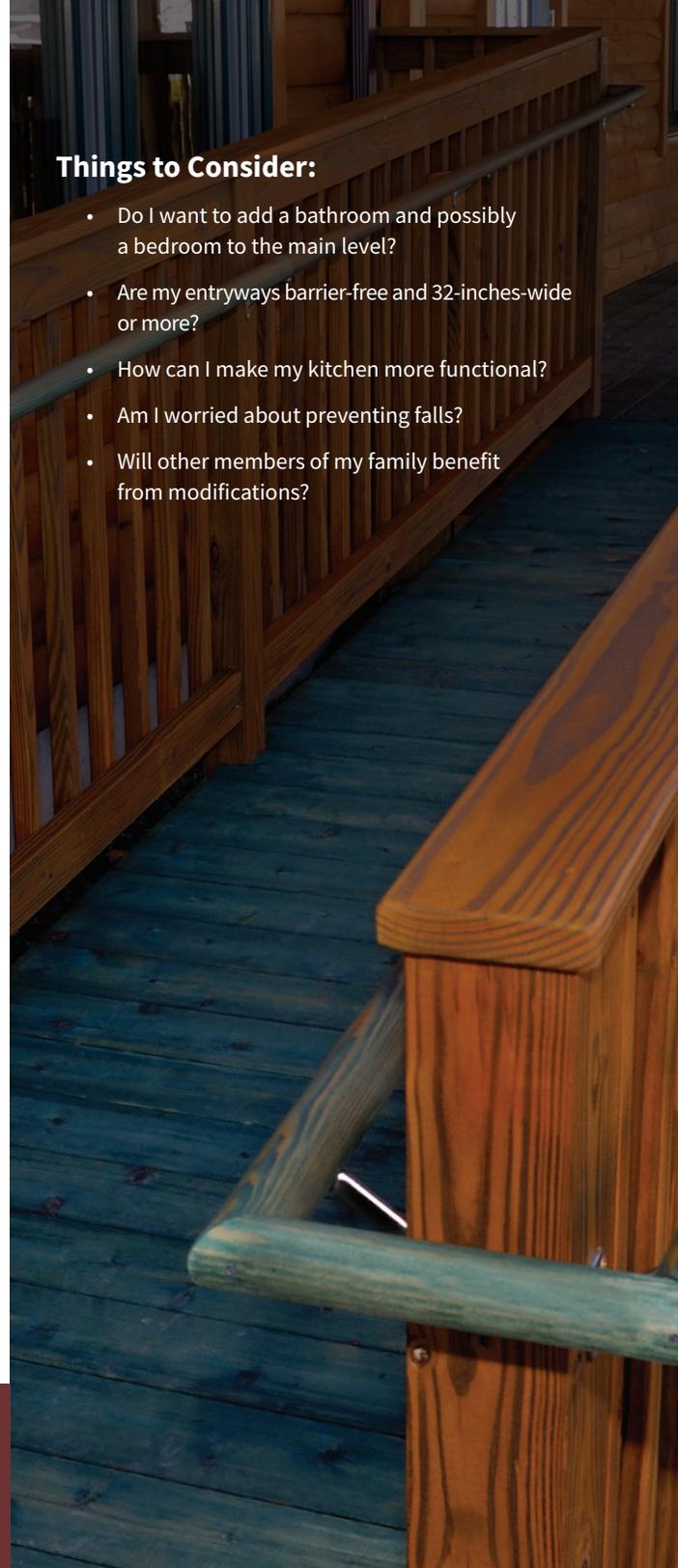
The CAPS Designation was developed by the National Association of Home Builders (NAHB) in partnership with American Association of Retired Persons (AARP) and is administered by NAHB. Professionals who have earned the CAPS designation are experts in designing and building aesthetically-enriching, barrier-free living environments. They have been trained in the unique needs of the older adult population and apply strategies and techniques to provide comprehensive and practical home modification solutions.

CAPS graduates also pledge to uphold a professional code of ethics and are required to take continuing education to maintain their designation.

While most CAPS professionals are remodelers, an increasing number are general contractors, designers, architects and health care consultants. When you hire a CAPS, you are buying a service rather than a product. If the CAPS you hire is not also a professional remodeler, you will eventually need to hire a remodeler to make the modifications to your home.

Things to Consider:

- Do I want to add a bathroom and possibly a bedroom to the main level?
- Are my entryways barrier-free and 32-inches-wide or more?
- How can I make my kitchen more functional?
- Am I worried about preventing falls?
- Will other members of my family benefit from modifications?



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