

Adapting your home



What to expect

When having your home adapted there can be a lot of information for you to understand. The aim of this leaflet is to answer frequently asked questions and to give you an idea of what the adaptations will look like when they are finished.

You will be visited by a contractor or a surveyor who will explain how the works will be carried out and what to expect when the Council are organising the works (Option 1). This leaflet does not cover every scenario so please ask if you have any questions; the contractor or surveyor should be able to answer any that you have. Alternatively, you can email accessible.homes@bristol.gov.uk.

Bathing Adaptations

These are usually level access or over bath showers:

Examples of a level access shower



Electric Showers will be high quality thermostatic controlled showers with an adjustable riser and a 2m long shower hose where assisted showering is required.



Shower screens can be provided where specified in your occupational therapist assessment. These are provided when a carer assists a person to use the shower.

Shower seat attached to the wall where this has been requested by the occupational therapist



Wall tiles will be plain glossy white 250x200mm. A choice of coloured borders may be offered by the contractor. Tiling is included in the shower area as well as a splashback to the basin to give a hygienic and easily cleaned environment. This is usually no more than 10m².

Pipe work is surface mounted and will be chrome plated where visible in the shower room (see level access shower picture). This allows for easy access for any future maintenance.

Electric cables are surface mounted and encased in white plastic trunking. All electrics are tested and certified as safe by a qualified person. This allows for easy access for any future maintenance. See level access shower picture.

All electrical works are tested and certified by an accredited electrician.

Extractor fans will be installed where you do not have one or repaired where the existing fan is not working. These fans are extremely economical to run and should not be switched off as they are designed to reduce condensation in your property and reduce the chance of mould forming on surfaces. These may not be fitted if you live in a high-rise flat as you may have a ventilation system in place already. You will be advised if this is the case.

Electric Pumps are occasionally installed due to the construction of the property. This will ensure the water is removed from the shower area. The contractor or surveyor will explain this to you if it is necessary.



If you are having other adaptations such as an adapted kitchen, door widening, or a stair lift then please note the following:

Electrics - Additional or moved sockets and switches will be set on the wall surfaces with cables concealed inside surface mounted white plastic trunking.

Decorations, we are only able to decorate locally, where decorations were disturbed by the works. When widening a door for example, we will apply emulsion paint to both sides of the affected wall(s) only. We are unable to match wallpaper or paint, you will need to organise any further redecoration.

Carpets, other floor finishes and door thresholds, where the works have left a gap in flooring, we fit new thresholds and door bars to cover carpet, wooden, laminate, or ceramic floor tile edges. We cannot replace carpets or flooring so there may be some areas in existing floor coverings that will not be made good.

Stairlifts are installed on top of your existing carpet. Should you be considering having new carpets installed, we strongly recommend that this is carried out before the installation of the stair lift.

Kitchens, where the adaptations to your kitchen are only in part, we will try to match as close as possible any existing cupboard and worktop finishes.