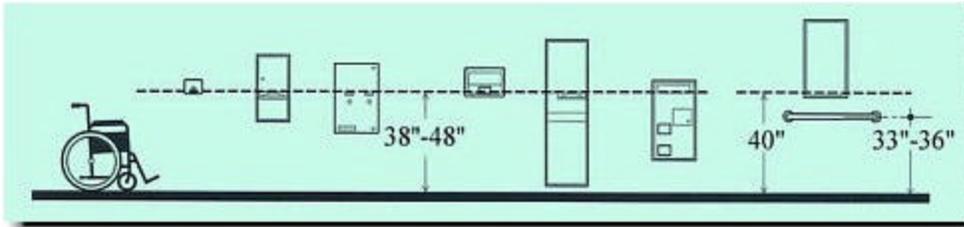




ADA Americans With Disabilities Act



With the passage of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), washroom facilities in the USA must be designed to accommodate people with disabilities and meet ADA Accessibility Guidelines (ADAAG), as well as meet specific requirements of local building codes

Mounting height requirements of accessories may vary within a facility depending on location of individual accessories and the direction of reach required for their use. As a general guideline, accessories should be mounted so the operating features are 38" to 48" (965-1220mm) above the finish floor to allow forward reach by people in wheelchairs (consult local building codes for specific requirements).

Recommended guidelines are given that meet or exceed ADAAG requirements. For help in designing barrier-free washrooms, request Bobrick's Barrier-Free Washroom Planning Guide and Wheelchair Maneuverability Drawing Template. For additional assistance, contact your local Bockstanz/ Bobrick Architectural Representative. Always consult ADAAG and local building codes for regulations in your area.

SOAP DISPENSERS

Push buttons and pistons should be operable with one hand and without tight grasping, pinching, or twisting of the wrist. Activation of soap valves should not require more than 5 pounds of force (22.2 n). If wall-mounted units are placed over lavatories or countertops, then their push buttons should be located 44" (1120mm) maximum above the finish floor.

PAPER TOWEL DISPENSERS

Access to paper towels should be 15" to 48" (320-1220mm) above the finish floor to allow forward and side reach by people in wheelchairs.

WASTE RECEPTACLES

Access to receptacle openings should be 15" to 48" (380-1220mm) above the finish floor to allow forward and side reach by people in wheelchairs. Hinged panels covering waste receptacle openings should not require more than 5 pounds of force (22.2n) to open. It is recommended that units projecting more than 4" (100mm) from the wall be located in corners, alcoves, or between other protruding structural elements so as not to be a hazard to blind people or interfere with required access aisles and the 60" (1525mm) minimum diameter turning spaces for wheelchairs.

TOILET TISSUE DISPENSERS

For universal access roll dispensers without controlled delivery are preferred. Folded-tissue dispensers are not recommended because they require a finger pinching action. Standard toilet tissue rolls should be mounted with their forward edge no more than 36" (915mm) from the back wall and their horizontal centerline at least 19" (485mm) above the finish floor.

WARM-AIR HAND DRYERS

Start buttons should be operable with one hand and with no more than 5 pounds of force (22.2n), and they should protrude and be a contrasting color from surrounding material so visually impaired people can see them well and blind people can feel them easily. Otherwise, provide automatic dryers with no-touch operation. When a single dryer is installed in a washroom, it is recommended that the start button be located 38" to 40" (965-1220mm) above the finished floor, with at least: 30" x 48" (760 x 1220mm) of clear floor space centered in front of the unit to allow both left-handed and right-handed wheelchair approaches. When two or more dryers are installed, mount one dryer so its start button is 38" to 40" (965-1220mm) above the finish floor and locate others at 41" to 48" (1040-1220mm), and alternate left-handed and right-handed wheelchair approaches.

SOAP DISHES

It is recommended that soap dishes in all bathing facilities be recessed and placed on the same wall as the shower head and controls where they are least likely to collect standing water. It is recommended that they are mounted 38" to 48" (965-1220mm) above the finish floor, or they should be mounted between the grab bar and the rim of bathtubs.

SANITARY NAPKIN/TAMPON VENDORS

Buttons and knobs should be operable with one hand and without tight grasping, pinching, or twisting of the wrist. Operation of pull knobs should not require more than 5 pounds of force (22.2n).

COMBINATION TOWEL AND WASTE UNITS

Access to paper towels should be 15" to 48" (380-1220mm) above the finish floor to allow forward and side reach by people in wheelchairs. Hinged panels covering waste receptacle openings should not require more than 5 pounds of force (22.n) to open. . It is recommended that units projecting more than 4" (100mm) from the wall be located in corners, alcoves, or between other protruding structural elements so as not to be a hazard to blind people or interfere with required access aisles and the 60" (1525mm) minimum diameter turning spaces for wheelchairs.

SHOWER SEATS

L-shaped folding shower seats are required in accessible 36" x 36" (915 x 915mm) shower stalls. They should be mounted on the wall opposite controls with top surface of seat 17" to 19" (430-485mm) above the finish floor. Seat should have no more than 1 ½" (40mm) clearance from walls and should extend the depth of shower stall, allowing space for shower curtain at front of stall. Wide section of L-shaped seat should project no more than 23" (585mm) from wall; the narrow section, no more than 16" (405mm) from wall. If shower seat is provided in 30" x 60" (760 x 1525mm) min. shower stall, it should be folding type and mounted on the wall adjacent to controls. Structural strength of shower seats and their mounting devices should withstand more than 250 pounds of force (1112 N).

SHOWER CURTAINS

All types of shower installations designed for wheelchair users are generally more accessible when shower curtains are used as enclosures. If other types of enclosures are used, they should fold back completely out of the way so as not to obstruct transfer to shower seats or interfere with controls, and they should not incorporate a track along the rim of bathtubs.

PARTITION-MOUNTED ACCESSORIES

Recessed combination units are recommended for sidewalks or partitions with grab bars. Toilet tissue dispensers should not be control delivery, and the tissue rolls should be located so their forward edge is no more than 36" (915mm) from the back wall and their horizontal centerline is at least 19" (485mm) above the finished floor. Sanitary napkin disposals are recommended for all women's toilet compartments mounted below grab bars and within reach from a sitting position. Access to seat covers should be 19" to 48" (485-1220mm) above the finish floor. Surface-mounted accessories should not be mounted above grab bars.

MEDICINE CABINETS

Units should be mounted so the bottom edge of the reflective surface is no higher than 40" (1015mm) above the finish floor and at least one accessible shelf is no higher than 44"

(1120mm) above the finish floor.

GRAB BARS

All accessible bathing facilities require grab bars installed to meet ADAAG specifications.

Diameter of grab bars should be 1 ¼" to 1 ½" (30-40mm) with 1 ½" (40mm) clearance from the wall. Grab bars should not rotate in their fittings. The required mounting height is universally 33" to 36" (840-915mm) from the centerline of the grab bar to the finish floor. Structural strength of grab bars and their mounting devices should withstand more than 250 pounds of force (1112 N).

MIRRORS.

Bottom edge of reflective surface should be mounted no higher than 40" (1015mm) above the finish floor. A single full-length mirror is recommended in each washroom because it is universally usable.

MIRRORED MULTIPURPOSE UNITS

These combination units can be helpful to people with disabilities by conveniently locating several accessories next to an accessible lavatory. The bottom edge of the reflective surface should be located 40" (1015mm) maximum above the finished floor. The soap dispenser should be operable with less than 5 pounds of force (22.2n).