

Does your future home tick all the boxes?

Take a look around any house and you'll quickly see if it's built to last a lifetime. Lifemark™ sets out clear and easy to spot design features you can check yourself. There are six critical areas with 33 features to tick off.

Entrance

At least one car parking space can be widened to 3.6m.

Paths from the car parking space to the house are slip resistant, gentle sloping and at least 1200mm wide.

A flat area immediately before the entry door of 1200mm x 1200mm.

The entry area is under cover and is slip resistant.

Sensor light at the main entry.

The threshold to a main entry has no step higher than 20mm.

The entry hallway is 1200mm wide and other internal hallways are at least 1050mm wide.

Doors have a minimum clear opening of 810mm.

Kitchen

It is not designed as a main thoroughfare.

It provides a 1500mm turning circle.

Minimum distance between benches of 1200mm.

Doors have a minimum clear opening of 810mm.

Appliances are accessible and placed at least 300mm away from corners.

Dining and cooking areas are located next to each other.

Livingroom

Lever handles are used on all doors.

Power sockets, TV, phone and computer outlets are located away from the corners and are sited between 600mm to 1000mm from the floor.

Windows have lever handles and are mostly located no higher than 1200mm from the floor.

Floor finishes are slip resistant and designed to accommodate wheeled traffic.

Smoke alarm systems that enable present or future adaptation to audio and visual warnings.

Bedroom

In larger houses (over 80m²), at least one bedroom is design with 800mm of clear floor space around the bed(s).

Easy access to at least one bathroom from this bedroom.

A bedroom located on the entry level of the home.

Power sockets, TV, phone and computer outlets are located away from the corners and are sited between 600mm to 1000mm from the floor.

Light switches and door handles are placed at a consistent height of 1000mm from the floor.

Bathroom

A toilet and bathroom on the entry level, next to each other.

The combined bathroom and toilet floor space can (either now or in the future) provide enough space for a 1500mm turning circle.

Space and plumbing for an entry level shower (installed either now or in the future) with a minimum dimension of 1200mm x 1200mm.

The walls are pre-strengthened to accommodate future handrails and a shower seat.

Multi-storey homes

Space identified for a 1200mm x 1200mm platform lift to be installed in the future.

Stairwells contain weight-bearing handrails on both sides.

The width between handrails is a minimum of 900mm to allow for a future chair lift.

A 1200mm x 1200mm unobstructed platform exists at the bottom of the stairs.

The handrail will extend 300mm past the top step and 300mm plus one tread width from the base of the bottom step.