



What is Universal Design?

Universal Design is a set principles that are integrated through the design process to help create a built environment that can be used by as many people as possible regardless of age and ability.



7 Principles of Universal Design

1	Equitable Use	The design is useful and marketable to people with diverse abilities.
2	Flexibility in Use	The design accommodates a wide range of individual preferences and abilities.
3	Simple and Intuitive Use	Use of the design is easy to understand, regardless of the user's experience, knowledge, language skills, or current concentration level.
4	Perceptible Information	The design communicates necessary information effectively to the user, regardless of ambient conditions or the user's sensory abilities.
5	Tolerance for Error	The design minimizes hazards and the adverse consequences of accidental or unintended actions.
6	Low Physical Effort	The design can be used efficiently and comfortably and with a minimum of fatigue.
7	Size and Space for Approach and Use	Appropriate size and space is provided for approach, reach, manipulation, and use regardless of user's body size, posture, or mobility.

Resources: IDEA Center: Center for Inclusive Design and Environmental Access. <http://idea.ap.buffalo.edu/> Institute for Human Centered Design. <http://www.adaptenv.org/> and "The Principles of Universal Design" NC State University, The Center for Universal Design