



Newsletter

Edition 66 | 11th April 2024

Editor's Note

Welcome to the first instalment of the HMinfo Newsletter for 2024.

In this newsletter, we briefly discuss the HMinfo resources and other activities relevant to home modifications for the period January-April 2024.

NEW HMinfo RESOURCES

Summary Bulletin: Home lifts

Lifts in the home enable people with limited mobility to travel up and/or down a range of distances. The technology that enables lift installation and ease of operation is changing rapidly in response to increased consumer demand. Thus, it is important to reflect carefully about trends and issues prior to purchase or recommendation for any residential lift.



This Summary Bulletin reviews the main types of lifts that can be used in homes and provides useful information on their characteristics, cost and space requirements, to enable informed choice of home lift.

[Download this resource from the HMinfo website](#)

Consumer Factsheet: Staying safe during a flood

Floods are among the most frequent and costly extreme weather events in Australia and all over the world. Floods are mainly caused by heavy or steady rain for several hours or days that saturates the ground. Flash floods, on the other hand, occur suddenly due to rapidly rising water along a stream or low-lying area. Flooding can

cause damage to buildings and other infrastructure, injuries and even fatalities. During floods and other extreme weather events, older people, people with disability, pregnant women, families with children, etc, often require assistance and additional time to evacuate, however, they are frequently not included in evacuations and emergency response plans.

This factsheet provides information to assist older people, people with disability and their carers prepare for floods in their home environment.

[Download this resource from the HMinfo website](#)

Other RESOURCES

Video: About the Home Modification Information Clearinghouse

A video introducing the Home Modification Information Clearinghouse (HMinfo) and describing its activities and how they relate to supporting people with disability, older people and their carers.

[View this resource on your browser](#)

Video: Arranging Home Modifications

A video outlining what home modifications are, why they are beneficial and how you can arrange them for yourself or someone in your care. It also touches on frequently raised concerns, such as obtaining funding via available subsidies.

[View this resource on your browser](#)

Video: Assistive Technology - Home Automations

Many of us find it challenging to complete activities necessary for our well-being and comfort in the home, such as turning the air-conditioner and lights on/off without assistance.

This short video summarises how home automations or "smart" home controls can help us control our home environment easily.

[View this resource on your browser](#)

Video: Home Lighting

A video providing tips on how to increase the lighting in your home and make your daily tasks easier to perform.

[View this resource on your browser](#)

Video: Fire Safety - Escape

A video with advice on how to protect yourself and your family from home fires and links to resources that can assist you with preparing a home Escape Plan.

[View this resource on your browser](#)

EVENTS

Sydney Build 2024

Australia's largest construction and design show features 20,000+ attendees, 500+ speakers across 15 CPD stages, 500+ exhibitors, Meet the Buyers, Government Hub, Architect's Hub, live music, entertainment, DJs, celebrity guests and more.

[Link](#)

Designing Dementia-Friendly Home Environments

[Inclusive OT & MWP Care](#) are partnering up for the 3rd year in a row, to bring you another CPD event for OTs. The workshop is ideal for new grads, early career OTs, and those more experienced OTs who want a refresher.

This workshop is for occupational therapists interested in building their skills in designing and creating dementia-friendly environments through the use of home modifications and assistive technology.

Date: Wednesday 8 May 2024 (UTC+10)

[Link](#)

SYDNEY: Bathroom Design for OTs - Modifications with a Difference

Held at the Caroma Distribution Centre, this unique event will be led by Lyndal Millikan, whose extensive experience in home modifications spans over 25 years across various clinical settings in both public health and the private sector. Additionally, the building and project management team from Building Help, as well as Caroma product designers will also offer their expertise.

This workshop is a must-attend for OTs aiming to prescribe accessible bathrooms that are safe, functional, and aesthetically pleasing, while accommodating limited budgets, personal styles, and preferences. Plus, attendees will get an exclusive behind-the-scenes tour of the cutting-edge design centre.

Recommended for novice home modifications practitioners, new graduates, or seasoned OTs looking to enhance their OT toolkit, this event promises valuable insights and practical skills. Code 'MODS24' before the 17th April for an Early Bird Discount.

Date: Friday 17 May 2024 9:00 AM - 4:00 PM

[Link](#)

ADELAIDE: Bathroom Design for OTs - Modifications with a Difference

A 1-day workshop for OTs interested in taking their basic bathroom modifications skills up a level. This unique event, set at Caroma on the Parade in Norwood, Adelaide, is presented by Inclusive OT and facilitated by Lyndal Millikan, whose home modification experience spans 25+ years across multiple clinical settings in public health & the private sector. Guest speakers include building professionals & subject matter experts. This event is a must for OTs who want to prescribe accessible bathrooms that are safe, functional, and aesthetic to suit limited budgets, personal styles & preferences. They will explore & identify how OT clinical reasoning matched with the right products results in best practice outcomes.

Date: Friday, 16 August 2024 9:00 AM - 4:00 PM (UTC+10)

[Link](#)

Any suggestions or feedback you may have on our newsletter would be greatly appreciated, so please feel free to contact us at hminfo@unsw.edu.au. To unsubscribe from future HMinfo newsletters, please click [unsubscribe](#).



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