

ACCESS INSIDER

An Access.Architectural Newsletter

The Accessible Cooking Area

There are more accessibility features located in the kitchen than anywhere else in our home. Over the next several issues, Access.Insider will take a look at a collection of ideas that you can incorporate in your accessible kitchen. The Cooking Area of an accessible kitchen should have all major appliances configured so that they are all accessible and easy to use.

The Double Wall Oven

The use of a double oven is often suggested. There are numerous advantages to a double oven, especially the installation at a height that works specifically for the individual. Some wheelchair users may find the bottom oven is the best for access, while their taller spouse finds the upper oven within their preferred reach.

The Cooktop



Consideration of a lowered cooktop with clear knee space below may be just what the chef-de-cuisine is looking for. It is common to find many options of cooktops, some with control knobs on the front, some at the side, and even some digital push buttons as

found on a microwave. Secondly, an open cabinet below or a creative design with pivot/ sliding doors can be achieved with a little help from your design professional. One additional suggestion for the Cook Top Area is the addition of a Pot Filler over the cooktop. This is a plumbing fixture that allows you to add water to a pan as it sits on the cooktop; Therefore, eliminating the need to carry a heavy pot of water from the sink.

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Accessible Vacations can include Air Travel

Although air travel today is available to most people, barriers to access still exist for people with disabilities. To eliminate these hindrances, the federal government passed the Air Carrier Access Act of 1986 (ACAA), which prevents airlines from discriminating against people with disabilities.

The ACCA

The ACAA affects all domestic air carriers and all airport facilities within the United States and as of September 1, 2000, the ACAA was amended to cover foreign air carriers operating in the United States. All aircraft ordered by an airline after April 5, 1990, or delivered after April 5, 1992, must comply with the ACAA's wheelchair-accessibility provisions.

Aircraft with more than one aisle and any number of lavatories must have at least one that is accessible. The lavatory must be designed so that a person using an on-board wheelchair can enter, move within the room, and leave. Accessible lavatories must provide the same degree of privacy as other lavatories on the plane. All controls, locks, and dispensers must be usable by passengers in wheelchairs and those with manual impairments.

Any plane with more than 60 passenger seats and an accessible lavatory must provide an on-board wheelchair if a passenger requests one (with notice). An aircraft with 100 or more seats must designate priority space in the cabin for on-board wheelchair storage.

Most Aircraft also include Braille Safety Cards, Captioned Safety Video, Individual Safety Briefings, Stowage of Carry-on items, Onboard folding "aisle chair", Moveable Aisle Armrests, and Accessible Lavatories.

Aircraft are "Accessible"

Under the ACAA, all twin aisle US aircraft built after 1992 are required to have at least one "accessible" lavatory. However, the concept of an "accessible" lavatory is not defined under the typically accepted ADA; these regulations are much looser in their requirements.

Con't Next Page — **Air Access**



Improve access for your Residential, Religious, Commercial, or Civic facilities

Access.Arch Photography

Access.Architectural has developed a photographic division. Many of our staff have an interest in the natural and man-made environment, and have combined that with the art of photography.

Check out their work and consider buying a print, or even framed piece of unique art.



Air Access (continued from previous page)



In practice, most airlines interpret the regulations to mean that there should be enough room for a wheelchair-user to perform an unassisted front transfer to the toilet from the on-board wheelchair. There are suggested guidelines for on-board accessible lavatories;

however they are only suggested, and not required. In short, an airborne accessible lavatory is not the same roomy model you'll find on the ground.

Access varies from carrier to carrier; so ask for specific measurements, and never settle for a blanket statement that there is "an accessible lavatory" on-board. It is vitally important for travelers with disabilities, their companions, and travel agents to know what to expect from the time an airline reservation is booked to the moment the flight touches down.

The Microwave (continued from front page)

Built-in Microwaves should be located just like a wall mounted

oven. Put one in the best reach range possible for all of the users in the household. Be creative and consider a special drawer in the top of the cabinet that's immediately below the microwave. This drawer has a board that slides along the top. This provides a surface to put the cooking container on to work with the contents.



Or, you could try a drawer type of microwave that may also act as the shelf in the previous suggestion.

Remember, Access.Architectural can be your source for creative, customized design, to make your kitchen accessible, and aesthetically pleasing.



In The News

Access.Architectural has recently completed two Accessibility Compliance Reviews for two forward thinking, disability friendly corporations. Kudos shall be give to:

Greenfield and University Plaza (by DeRito Partnership) and *Hotel Highland* (a Hilton Company).

Both of these facilities have undergone an intense compliance evaluation by Access.Architectural, and although their facilities are quite accessible, and in most cases exceed ADA regulation standards, some deficiencies were found. They have chosen to address these concerns head on. Access.Architectural provided them with 75-100 page full color evaluation reports that included Suggested Recommendations and a 5-7 year Strategic Accessibility Plan.

For an Accessibility Compliance Review cost estimate regarding your hospitality, commercial, residential, or retail property contact Pete at 480.577.1271

Contact Us

Give us a call for more information about our services and products

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On November 4th, 2012 the owner of Access.Architectural, LLC is participating in the Phoenix 10K and has entered the Half Marathon division. Pete decided to do this race on a hand cycle to support kids with Arthritis after he and his wife, Alison, attended Camp Cruz, a summer camp for kids with arthritis ages 7-16, held by the Arthritis Foundation. They saw first-hand how exciting, emotional, and important camp is to these kids.

We are asking you to support the kids with a personal donation, or corporate sponsorship and to help us reach our fundraising goal of \$10,000. It costs about \$1,000 to send one kid to camp for one week of fun, thrills, and camaraderie, so our goal is to send at least 10 kids to summer camp!

Visit: AccessArchitectural.com/PetesHalfMarathon

