

Level access shower

Following a recent visit from your Occupational (OT) Therapist, a level access shower has been recommended for you.

Useful information

- A level access shower is sometimes referred to as a wet room. They are normally installed in place of a bath.
- It may be necessary to carry out structural alterations and additional plumbing to install the shower safely.
- A specialist survey may be needed to establish if there is any asbestos in the area the contractor will be working. This is a legal requirement for the protection of the contractor. It is rare to find any asbestos but if any is found, the contractor will arrange for it to be removed safely before the work begins.

Showers are installed with:

- a) a half height, lightweight opening side panels and /or a shower rail and curtain
- b) a thermostatically controlled shower
- c) non-slip flooring. There is a choice of colour.



- There will always be space for a shower chair
- The contractor will fit ceramic tiles over a limited area to protect the walls. This will be explained by the surveyor when they call to quote. You will be given a choice of tiles. If you would like a larger area to be tiled or prefer to have different tiles we can arrange this but you will be charged for any extra cost.
- There will be times during the day when power or water is switched off to allow the contractor to work safely. Each evening the power and water will be available for you to use.
- The contractor will be as considerate as possible but you may not have access to your WC at certain times. You may prefer to make alternative arrangements for the duration of the work.

- If existing electrical fittings in the bathroom do not meet today's safety standards we will arrange for them to be updated. Eg, we may need to move lift switches to the landing or upgrade a heater.
- An extractor fan will be fitted (if not already present), to minimise condensation.
- If it is necessary to replaster parts of the bathroom that will not be tiled, the new plaster will be sealed with a coat of emulsion but you will need to redecorate in due course.

Average waiting time

- If you are applying for a Disabled Facilities Grant (DFG) the Order for the adaptation cannot be placed until you have received a grant approval which takes approximately eight weeks. Once the Order has been placed the average waiting time is then four to six weeks. The installer will contact you to arrange a mutually convenient installation date

Installation time

- It takes approximately seven working days to fit a level access shower, depending on the specification and preparatory work required.

More Information

For more information about this adaptation please contact the Home Improvement Agency Team on **0161 474 4291** or **hia@stockporthomes.org**

(If you would like a copy of this factsheet in large print, Braille, on audio tape or CD, or in any other language, please contact the Social Inclusion team on **0161 474 2860** or email **inclusion@stockporthomes.org**.)

After installation

- The contractor will show you how to use the shower safely. They will also leave a manual which contains the guarantee for the shower unit. The contractor will register the guarantee with the manufacturer.
- A surveyor from Stockport Homes will contact you to check that you are happy with the ramp and that it is working properly. **Please tell them if you have any concerns.**
- Your OT will be informed that the work has been completed. They may visit you to ensure that you are using it correctly and that it meets your needs.

Reporting faults

- Once fitted, the shower is your property.
- The shower has a 12 month guarantee. Any faults occurring during this period should be reported to the installer. When the warranty expires you are responsible for the maintenance and repair.