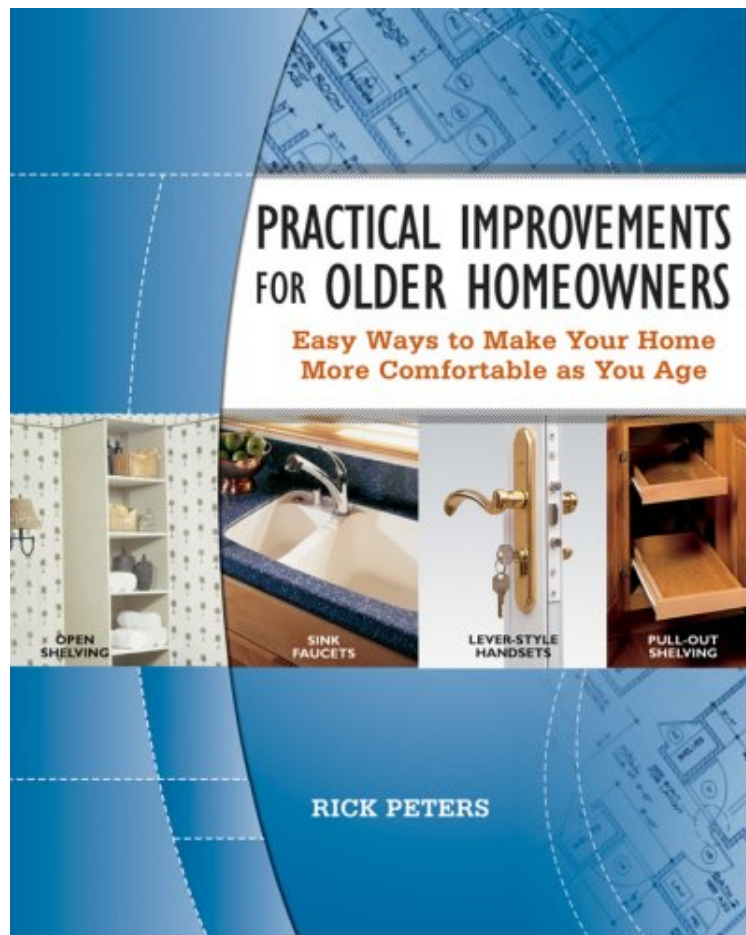


(Download) Practical Improvements for Older Homeowners: Easy Ways to Make Your Home More Comfortable as You Age

## Practical Improvements for Older Homeowners: Easy Ways to Make Your Home More Comfortable as You Age

*Rick Peters*

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**Rick Peters : Practical Improvements for Older Homeowners: Easy Ways to Make Your Home More Comfortable as You Age** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Practical Improvements for Older Homeowners: Easy Ways to Make Your Home More Comfortable as You Age:

5 of 5 people found the following review helpful. Exactly what we were looking forBy NaomiThis is the book we were looking for when I purchased Staying Power: Age Proof Your Home for Comfort, Safety and Style by Rachel Adelson and Universal Design and Aging by Steve Hoffacker. It gives the same kind of information available in Residential Remodeling and Universal Design: Making Homes More Comfortable and Accessible that was published in 1996 by the US Dept of Housing and Urban Development. I did not feel as if I were being talked down to, as I did

in some of the other literature on the subject. Plus, we no longer feel as if we have to be super wealthy nor live in an urban area to accomplish these modifications. My husband and I are in our sixties, retired, and definitely not wealthy, but we can do this! This book provides real measurements and specifications we can use. Although published in 2006, I am still finding it current enough to be useful. 5 stars. 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Some good info

By Peter Most of this stuff is available readily on the web - and I previously compiled that information already. It's not really written for contractors, more of the DIY crowd. There are a couple of figures and quotations I found useful, but for the most part I could have easily skipped buying this book and not missed much. Check out the Center for Universal Design web page and of course the ADA web page for better info than you'd find here. If you're just looking to do a couple of odds and ends for your parent this is not a terrible place to start getting ideas from.

14 of 14 people found the following review helpful. Informative Guide for Revamping for Older Adults

By Sunny Skies Practical Improvements is a much needed book on adapting and improving a current home to be more accessible to the older adult and/or disabled. What's great about this book is that it does not recreate your home into a nursing home looking environment. Many of the suggestions are unnoticeable, but would make the older adult's life easier. The improvements discussed are in every room of the house. For example, page 16 discussed sinks and faucets being wall mounted with levers for faucet handles instead of knobs. This allows wheelchairs to be able to maneuver under it and still have toe room if someone uses a walker. Looking at the room pictured, it looks like a clean lined, modern bathroom. As I've gotten older, it definitely is nice to have a slightly elevated sink and not have to bend completely at the waist to brush my teeth. There is discussion of layouts for bathrooms from half bath to 2 person bathrooms. Walk-in tub units and shower units made with a lower threshold and built-in curb-less tiled shower. In the kitchen, pull out bins for trash and pots and pans are touted. These are becoming standard in many homes in my area, not just for older adults. Recessed base cabinets for those in a wheelchair to pull up close enough to wash dishes or cook is highly functional, but the book shows how beautiful this change can be in a kitchen. The book is divided into 3 sections: Planning Your Makeover, Real Makeover Examples and Creating Your Looks. The photographs are clear, numerous and in color. Creating Your Looks section (final 2/3 of the book) are projects that help you make some of these changes yourself. These include things like carpet transitions, installing lever handles, installing raised seat toilets, installing recessed lights, widening a hallway, adding a ramp, installing hand rails. Some of the information is basic for most decorating/remodeling books, i.e. lighting needs and types and installing doors. The before and after pictures were good and there was also an explanation of the changes made to improve the space. I really enjoyed this book and would recommend it if you are considering some updates to improve the function and accessibility of your home. It could have been improved by being more specific, i.e. what the seat height should be for a raised seat toilet; what is the maximum height for the sink area to be functional for someone who is wheelchair bound and still be functional for non-disabled persons. Overall, I would definitely recommend this book.

Anyone who's 50 or older should have this intelligently conceived, wonderfully illustrated, room-by-room guide. With advice on everything from creating multilevel countertops to installing grab bars in the bathroom, it explains how to make your beloved house safe, easy to navigate, and conducive to independent living, as you or your parents get older. Three sections help you plan for any necessary remodeling, present makeover examples for every room, and lay out projects with instructions. Some of the alterations are do-it-yourself; others may require a professional. More complicated tasks receive especially detailed discussions that clarify exactly what the job entails, how long it should take, and what it typically costs.