

Exterior of Building Accessibility Checklist

In regards to the exterior of your building, have you considered:

- Keeping your parking areas and the outside of the building brightly lit for good visibility?
- Having access from the parking area to the main entrance that is level or has a curb cut?
- Making at least one of your parking places, close to a wheelchair accessible entrance, an accessible blue zone spot?
- An accessible drop-off/pick-up area, close to an accessible entrance?
- Continuous handrails on both sides of steps, in and out of the building?
- Marking steps with a non-slip, contrasting colour tape (light on dark or dark on light) on the outer edge of each step, in and out of the building?
- Putting a ramp, with contrasting colour handrails, in your entrance?
- Marking ramps with a non-slip, contrasting colour tape?
- Keeping your ramp free from obstructions, including snow and ice?
- Clearly marking accessible entrances with the international symbol of accessibility or signage indicating the nearest accessible entrance?
- Having clearly visible, outside signs with large text and recognizable symbols to identify your business?
- Painting your entrance door with a contrasting colour to its surroundings?
- Using signs or tape to mark any glass in doors, windbreaks, or window and floor displays?
- Wide door frames on all doors for people using mobility aids?

- Push button, automatic door openers for all doorways?
- Having door hinges on a low tension so they are easy to open?
- Putting lever handles at an accessible height on all doors?

Sources:

1. "Recruit Ability... A handbook for success in recruitment & hiring individuals with disabilities", Persons with Disabilities Collaborative Partnership Network of Nova Scotia
2. Government of Ontario, "Making buildings and spaces accessible", from http://www.mcass.gov.on.ca/en/mcass/programs/accessibility/understanding_accessibility/making_buildings_accessible.aspx
3. Vision Hotels UK, from <http://www.visionhotels.co.uk/top-tips-for-helping-blind-people-in-hotels/>