



BATHROOM NEWS



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PHYSICAL CHALLENGES ?

HOW TO STAY IN YOUR HOME AS LONG AS POSSIBLE

Various physical challenges present problems in trying to live a normal life in your own home. However, a few adjustments may be required to make that possible. In the past several years recognition of these challenges by manufacturers of tubs, showers and many other bath components have increased our ability to stay in our homes and be very safe in doing so.

In viewing the various pictures in this special edition you will be amazed at the ingenuity. From tubs with doors to tubs converted into showers and various safety features in the accessories.

For instance, the DELTA tub/shower faucet we often install has a sensor that prevents a change in temperature due to say a toilet flushing. Another

safety feature is the ability to adjust the temperature before even turning on the water. This is helpful for the youngsters and oldsters. There are several varieties of this "door style tub". The one at the left is much like a normal tub in size and height. Others are much taller, featuring an upright sitting position. Still others have seats that raise and lower the bather eliminating the struggle of trying to stand up from a sitting position.



← Luxury Bath Systems' tub measures 60"x32"x21". It fits in the standard space of a normal tub has whirlpool and heater features. The only difference from the normal 14" tub height is the 21" It has a seat in the back area. Mom will even find it convenient for bathing small children.

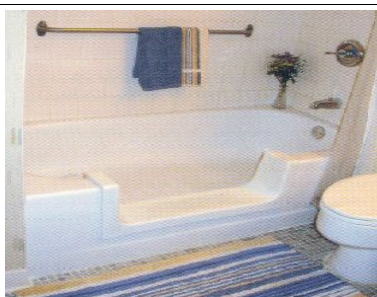
Below is a tub to shower conversion. This is not a new idea but new methods and materials have made it much easier, less time consuming and far less messy. The main purpose is to eliminate climbing over the front of the tub. A dangerous feat especially for someone with a hip or knee replacement.

The process involves removing the old tub and installing a shower pan along with new surround walls. Included is a safety faucet and often a wand style shower head that adds flexibility for the bather.

The whole process takes about three consecutive days and can be used the following day after completion. This is the most flexible option providing the entire family with plenty of bathing room.



TUB TO SHOWER CONVERSION
Actual picture of a recent project illustrating substituting the tub for a shower without using any more floor space.



The latest concept and possibly the most cost effective is the "cut-out" of the existing tub front to create a low threshold for ease of entry eliminating the removal of the tub. The procedure works very well especially if the existing tub is in good shape. Many times older tubs are unsightly and would best be replaced for a much nicer appearance. The investment factor is the lowest of all the various options. A free estimate will help you select your best option.

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These three versions of “Walk-In-Tubs are a small sample of the variety available to accommodate most any physically challenged person. The tub on the top left is 66” long with a seat that raises and lowers the bather for those who are unable to get out of a tub. Because of its length it features full lay down bathing.

The two other tubs illustrate the taller versions at approximately 36” high. The 51” long model with the odd shaped door is designed to allow more foot and leg room between the door and seat as it swings inward. The rectangular door model is 60” long allowing ample room for the occupant as the door swings inward. These designs do not affect the un-challenged bather from normal use for either a shower or bath. One exception, small children should not use the taller versions. All these tubs can be equipped with whirlpool and air massage features along with a heater that maintains water temperature. It is wise to make a full assessment of the physical challenges being accommodated, now and in the future, before investing in a Walk-In-Tub.

