

Summer Edition Newsletter



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This 2025 Summer Edition features Housing Design

CUDA's summer newsletters are topic specific containing past posts from the website. Note that some pages have multiple posts, so scroll down to check for them. For more on this topic, or any other, use the search button on left hand menu of [the website](#).

Livable Housing Handbook

The Livable Housing Design Standard applies to all new Class 1a and Class 2 buildings. Class 1a buildings are detached houses, row houses, terraces, townhouses and villa units. Class 2 buildings are apartment buildings and the design requirements apply inside the apartment. Public access requirements cover the public areas. To aid practitioners, the Australian Building Codes Board has produced a ...

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Adaptable Housing Guide - 6th edition

Your Home is in its 6th edition (2022) published by the Australian Government. It has a section on the livable and adaptable house. This guide is especially helpful for home renovations and modifications as well as new builds. Accessible, universal design features for all housing are in the 2022 edition of the National Construction Code. These features are similar to the ...

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Universally designed dream home

This is not your average home. This one goes beyond even enhanced features in the Livable Housing Design Standard. However, it shows what is possible with creative design thinking. Depending on where you live, the key features will be embedded in all new homes under the Livable Housing Design Standard. And it's good for home renovations too. Contrary to the ...

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Urban density: not the answer to everything

Politicians and planners make frequent calls for older Australians to give up their three bedroom homes to make way for "working families". They expect them to move into apartments. But is urban density the answer? Regardless of the ageist inference that older people are "hogging all the houses", with the political focus on working families, little room is left to discuss the needs of older Australian.

Plus research on downsizing, and housing aspirations of older people.

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Apartment Design Guides: Victoria, NSW & SA

Here are three apartment design guides: Victoria, New South Wales and South Australia. Reference to accessibility is the last item in the list of design considerations in the 2021 better apartment standards from Victoria. However, it is a good reference with technical advice. A clear door opening of at least 850mm at the entrance and main bedroom A clear path ...

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Housing: What next for an ageing Australia?

If you ask an older person if their home will suit them in their later years, they are likely to say yes. But how will they know and will they find out when it's too late? That is the

key issue when policy makers talk about ageing in place. Are we actually prepared for it? And not only are they ...

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Housing Adaptations Design Toolkit

The Housing Adaptations Design Toolkit comes from Northern Ireland and is focused on government departments collaborating for good social housing outcomes. The aim is to integrate services to promote independent living. As such it has application to government funded home modification services in Australia and elsewhere. Housing adaptations are a key element in supporting independent living. The other three are ...

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Specifications for universal design in housing

Universal design is a thinking process that aims for the most inclusive design solutions possible - designing universally. It is a process that improves through iteration. This means that you can't specify a standard, which is for one point in time, because it stops the process of continuous improvement. But we don't live in a perfect world and some people need a standard to ...

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Attachment by design

Attachment to home is a complex concept. It is often interpreted as a place holding memories and providing security and peace of mind. Consequently, attachment to home is usually given as the reason older people are not keen to move. However, it could be because there aren't any better places to move to, and that includes retirement villages. The design of the dwelling might be more important than the "resort-style" features in the glossy sales brochures. And that comes down to the details of the design.

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Home designs for living

Designs 4 Living is a magazine by Todd Brickhouse in the US with a focus on home designs for people with disability and older adults. The latest issue covers a wide variety of design solutions. They include home lighting, bathroom and kitchen trends, home workplaces and cognitive and sensory solutions. Link to a free guidebook to lighting the whole house...

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Universal Housing Design Guidelines from Landcom

The Landcom Universal Housing Design Guidelines were published in 2008, but the information is as relevant today as it was when first published. The designs were well researched and there are sample plans for all types of dwellings. The design process included costing the features. They found that if these features are considered at the outset of the design, the ...

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[Introduction to Universal Design: free online course](#)

Introduction to Universal Design online course is in visual, audio and text formats and there are quick quizzes at the end of each module. This course is good for newcomers to the concepts and a refresher for others. There's a certificate at the end.

Get started on the Introduction to Universal Design course! It will take less than an hour.

[Sign up - it's Free!](#)

[Livable Housing Design course](#)

This short course is tailor-made for professionals in the housing and home mods sectors seeking an understanding of the NCC requirements for Livable Housing Design Standard. It delves into the technical details of both the new standard and the

enhanced standard. The enhanced standard, similar to the Gold level of Livable Housing Design Guidelines, is good for anyone doing home modifications, or thinking about it. **Only \$35.00** inc GST.

CUDA presents this course under licence from the Australian Building Codes Board.

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