Summer Edition Newsletter

Centre for Universal Design Australia

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This 2025 Summer Edition features Wayfinding and Orientation

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.

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6 Steps for effective wayfinding

Wayfinding is more than just putting up a sign, but where signs are needed it's time to call an experiential graphic designer. They have expertise in understanding human behaviour and perception. Knowledge of access codes is also part of their skill-set. The key point is to involve them at the beginning of a project for best effect. A SEDG blog …

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Airport wayfinding: Easy for everyone

Airlines are working to improve accessibility, but airports also need to step up. People with disability are making regular complaints, and older people are likely to just give up travelling by air. Not good for the travel industry or tourism. So a well researched guide is welcome in this space. Wayfinding is far more than just good signage - it …

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Wayfinding signage manual

University campuses have much in common, including the likelihood of getting lost and disorientated. This is largely due to the way each campus evolves with new buildings placed wherever land is available. That makes architectural wayfinding strategies impossible to follow. So if a university campus can come up with a good way of orientating people, it should be good for …

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Accessible places with Google Maps

Google Maps has two new features to help us find our way and what we are looking for. Live View uses the camera in your phone to give street view directions, and the "Accessible Places" feature marks entrances with wheelchair access. Accessible Places feature Google Maps has expanded its "Accessible Places" feature that shows when a place is wheelchair accessible …

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Finding Your Way: Learning from users

University campuses are some of the most confusing places to visit. There seems no sense of order with buildings set up higgledy-piggledy fashion. Finding you way takes more than a campus map. Given that most campuses have buildings added as the years go by, creating a good wayfinding system is always going to be a problem. However, finding you way …

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Wayfinding Design Guidelines

Wayfinding requires designers to organise and communicate the relationships of space in the environment. Basically, it is the naming and marking of places, identifying destinations, and providing directional information. The Cooperative Research Centre for Construction Innovation produced a comprehensive, if somewhat technical, set of wayfinding design guidelines.

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Wayfinding system audit checklist

Wayfinding is often considered as just signage instead of site or building legibility. A wayfinding system involves buildings, open space, lighting, and landmarks. It's about providing consistent clues to help people navigate indoor and outdoor spaces. Wayfinding should be integrated into the design process in the early stages instead of being added as an afterthought. To help designers, the CRC …

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Wayfinding by pictures

The Nambour Aquatic Centre has a website that uses pictures to help people to find their way once they reach the facility. It's done through a simple app on the computer. Wayfinding by pictures is not a new idea, but it is a universally designed idea. Google Map's street view is obviously catering for a broad audience, so why not …

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Public transport and dementia

It's common for people with dementia to become less confident when using public transport and airports. The noise, the lights, and the crowds are distractions that can cause disorientation. Dementia Singapore found a way to help orientate and guide people through busy stations and interchanges through the "Find Your Way" initiative. Noise, lights, crowds: public transport for people with dementia …

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Maps and map accessibility: where to start?

When a government department or access committee starts talking about access maps and map accessibility, where do you start? Of course there are consultants to help with this, but it's good to have some idea of what to put in the brief. It's also a good idea to

know if the right thing has been delivered. A toolkit or guide …

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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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