



#12 ACCESSIBLE PUBLIC RESTROOMS

This handout describes general requirements. For complete code requirements see Washington State Building Code Chapter 11.

Toilet Rooms

All public toilet rooms shall be designed in accordance with Washington State Building Code Chapter 11, which includes ANSI A117.1 requirements. Public toilets should be easy to find and conveniently located, minimizing access effort and distance. Wheelchairs must be able to maneuver easily through doorways, vestibules and toilet stalls.

All public toilet rooms must provide at least one wheelchair-accessible toilet stall. In addition, when there are six or more toilets in room, at least one **ambulatory** accessible toilet stall (for people who use crutches, a walker, or a leg brace, or who may have difficulty in rising) shall also be provided. Where urinals are provided, at least one accessible urinal shall be provided.



An accessible restroom must provide wheelchair access to all fixtures, and allow a wheelchair to turn full circle (not less than 60" in diameter). Doors in any position may not encroach into this space by more than 12". The clear floor spaces at fixtures, the accessible route of travel, and the unobstructed floor space may overlap. Properly utilized, the required clearance under fixtures can be included in the unobstructed floor space, thus reducing room size.

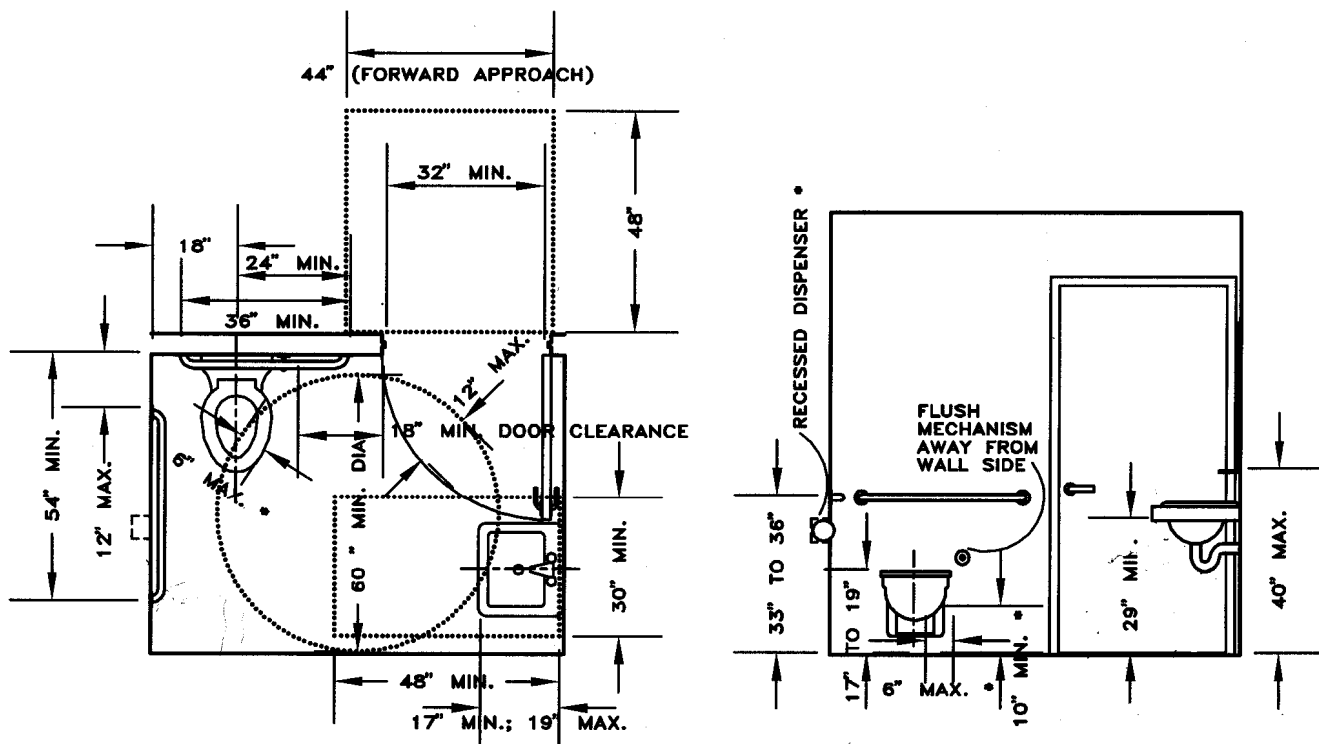
Public toilet rooms should avoid double doorways, which present safety hazards.

Fixtures

Accessible fixture placement and size must comply strictly with Washington State Building Code and ANSI A117.1 regulations, since deviations can cause considerable use and safety problems.

In public toilet rooms with multiple fixtures, the accessible fixtures should be located such that those using them will not obstruct access to the other fixtures.

Figure 1: Typical Accessible Restroom.



Where mirrors, towel fixtures and other toilet and bathroom accessories are provided, at least one of each shall be accessible.

Mirrors or shelves shall be installed so that the bottom of the mirror or the top of the shelf is within 40" of the floor.

Drying equipment, towel or other dispensers, and disposal fixtures shall be mounted such that they do not exceed 40" above the finished floor.

In rooms used mostly by children, fixtures heights should be appropriately adjusted.

Lavatories

At least one accessible lavatory shall be provided in every building or facility. Additional accessible restrooms may be required based upon the type of occupancy and the building size.

Lavatories must have clear floor space in front of them not less than 30" wide by 48" deep. The clear floor space

may include knee and toe clearances not to exceed 19" extending under the lavatory or lavatory. Lavatories shall be mounted with the rim or counter surface no higher than 34" above the finished floor.

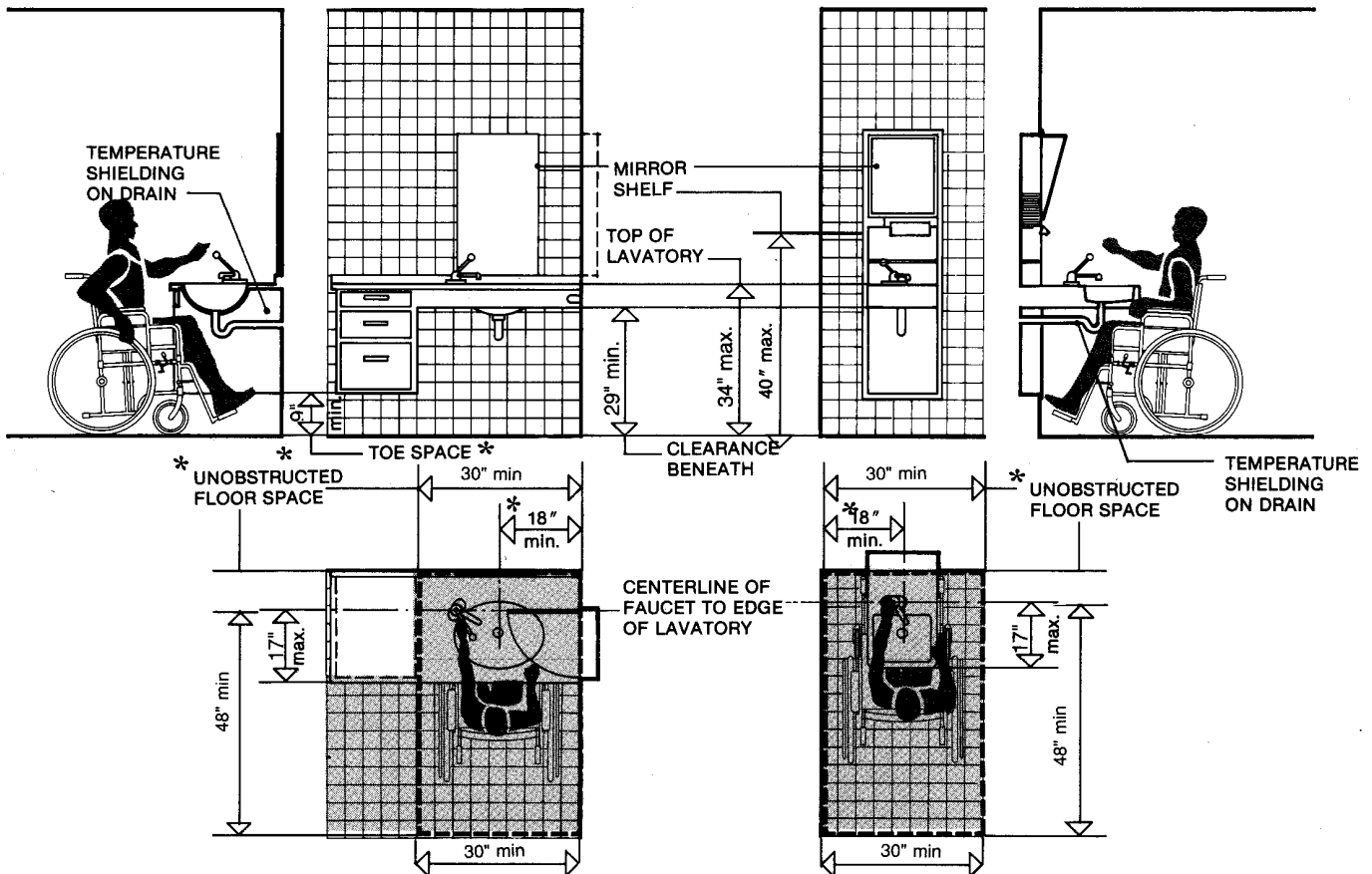
The total depth of the clear space beneath a lavatory shall be not less than 17", of which toe clearance shall be not more than 6" of the total depth. Knee clearance shall be not less than 29" high and 30" wide.

Hot water and drainpipes exposed under lavatories shall be insulated or otherwise covered. There shall be no sharp or abrasive surfaces under lavatories.

Faucet control handles shall be located not more than 17" from the front edge of the lavatory or counter, and shall have lever handles or other shape that does not require tight grasping, pinching or twisting to operate. Self-closing valves shall remain open for at least 10 seconds per operation.

Lavatory bowls shall be not more than 6.5" deep.

Figure 2: Accessible Lavatory and Toilet Specifications.



Please Remember: Priority service is provided to clients with active projects (fee paying clients). We encourage prospective clients to utilize the Planner of the Day service for general inquiries, staff consultations and/or pre-application meeting for further required expertise.

Accessible Stalls

Wheelchair Accessible Stalls

Wheelchair-accessible stalls containing floor-mounted toilets must be at least 60" wide (the lateral distance from the center line of the water closet to the nearest obstruction, excluding grab bars, shall be 18" on one side and not less than 42" on the other side) and 59" deep (54" wide for wall-hung toilets). Entry to the stall must have a clear width of 32". Stall doors shall not swing into the clear floor spaces required for any fixture. Except for door swing, a clear unobstructed access not less than 48" in width shall be provided outside toilet stalls. In other than stalls, a clear floor space of not less than 32", measured perpendicular to the wall on which the water closet is mounted, shall be provided in front of the water closet.

In any toilet stall except those deeper than 60", the front partition and at least one side partition shall provide a toe clearance of at least 9" above the floor.

Grab Bars

Grab bars shall be installed at one side and at the back of the toilet. The top of grab bars shall be not less than 33" and not more than 36" above and parallel to the floor. Grab bars located at the side shall be a minimum 42" long, be located not more than 12" from the rear wall, and extend at least 54" from the rear wall. Grab bars located at the back shall be a minimum of 36" long and shall extend at least 12" beyond the center of the water closet toward the side wall and at least 24" toward the open side of the water closet. Grab bars located at the back shall be mounted not more than 9" behind the water closet seat. Grab bars shall not be less than 1.25" nor more than 1.50" wide, and shall provide a clearance of 1.50" between the grab bar and the wall.

Toilet paper and other dispensers or receptacles shall be installed within easy reach of the toilet, and shall not interfere with unobstructed floor space or grab bar utilization.

Ambulatory Accessible Stalls

Ambulatory accessible toilet stalls shall be at least 36" wide with an outward-swinging self-closing door. Grab bars shall be installed similar to that of an accessible stall except they shall be on each side of the 36" wide toilet stall.

Accessible Toilets and Urinals

Accessible toilets shall be between 17" and 19" tall measured to the top of the seat. Seats shall not be sprung to return to a lifted position. Flush controls shall be mounted for use from the wide side of the water closet area and not more than 44" above the floor. Flush valves shall comply with fixture control requirements (see below), and shall not require a force greater than 5 lbs. to activate.

Urinals

A clear floor space measuring 30" wide by 48" deep shall be provided in front of urinals. Urinal shields shall have a clear space between them of not less than 29" and shall not extend farther than the front edge of the urinal rim. Urinals shall be stall-type or wall-hung with an elongated rim at a maximum of 17" above the floor. Flush controls shall be mounted not more than 44" above the floor. Flush valves shall comply with fixture control requirements (see below), and shall not require a force greater than 5 lbs. to activate.

Fixture Controls and Door Hardware

Handles, pulls, latches, locks and other operational devices on doors and fixtures shall have a lever or other implement that will permit the device to be operated by wrist or arm pressure and does not require tight grasping, pinching or twisting to operate.

Door hardware shall be mounted not less than 36" and not more than 48" above the floor.