Thinking of retirement? Planning a bathroom for the over 50's...

Are you planning a dream bathroom for now, but also looking to maximise your independence at home in the future?

Here's some great tips to help your planning:

- 1. **Plan a bathroom that can adapt to suit future needs**. You might be thinking of grab rails and a just little extra support we know the building tricks behind the scenes, to set up your bathroom structure now, so in the future, when you want, these rails and supports can be installed exactly where you need them.
- 2. **One great tip is to install a grab rail as the towel rail now**. It will be reinforced, so it will take a person's weight, and it is discreet, narrow fashion designs are available. We all do it if you're feeling a bit off balance the towel rail is what you reach for because it's handy. It's just that usually it's not designed to support your weight.
- 3. **We offer "Universal Design" fittings (such as taps) in our project plans**. These designs offer the best in efficient, easy "on/off" grip. Ask your supplier to show you the range of universal design items. They're used in many high fashion projects-you'll be surprised how good they look.
- 4. You can have your high fashion gloss tiles-just keep them to the walls, and have the same tile with the more slip resistant tile surfaces on the floor. This mix creates the popular look of the moment. There are a few different levels of slip resistance available in tiles for your floor. And, if slip prevention is a top priority, we can help you locate and select the "ultra slip resistant" finish tiles used in hospitals. They are available in neutral colours that blend well.
- 5. **Save money in the future: install a lipless shower frame now.** A little extra investment now for this popular shower screen used in many luxury bathrooms means you have the benefit of a fully accessible shower space in the future.
- 6. **Save a lot of money in the future**-wheelchairs and some mobility aids need a wider doorway to get into the bathroom. Consider installing a wider doorway now, and avoid the major job of adjusting tiled walls in the future.

More questions? How wide should the doorway or shower be? Do you have specific mobility needs you have identified?

There are specialist occupational and mobility therapists for this field, and we are happy to work with their professional recommendations when designing your bathroom.

