

Our Ref : BCA BC 15.0.3
Date : 20 Oct 2006

CIRCULAR TO PROFESSIONAL INSTITUTES

PROVISION OF A BATHROOM THAT CAN BE RETROFITTED FOR THE ELDERLY PERSONS AND WHEELCHAIR USERS

Objective

1 This circular is to inform qualified persons, developers and building owners of the requirement to provide in the residential unit at least one bathroom that can be retrofitted for the elderly persons and wheelchair users when the need arises.

Effective date

2 The requirement will apply to all new erections except for detached, semi-detached and terraced houses submitted to the Building and Construction Authority (BCA) from 1 April 2007.

Background

3 As a continuous effort to promote a barrier-free built environment and to keep the Code on Barrier-Free Accessibility in Buildings updated and relevant with the time, BCA has been reviewing the Code regularly in consultation with the stakeholders and end-users. In view of the rapidly aging population, the requirement is implemented as an interim measure before the targeted completion of the review of the Code in mid 2007.

The Requirement

4 The detailed requirements are described and illustrated in Appendices I & II

Pre-submission consultation

5 BCA welcomes QPs to consult us on the new provisions before formal submissions of building plans. You may make appointment with the following officers.

	<u>Tel No</u>
Yap Guan Hwa	63258641
Tan Cheong Ee	63258638

Informing members

6 I would appreciate it if you could convey the contents of this circular to members of your organization.

7 Thank you.

Yours faithfully



GOH SIAM IMM (MDM)
SENIOR MANAGER
BUILDING PLAN DEPARTMENT
for COMMISSIONER OF BUILDING CONTROL
BUILDING AND CONSTRUCTION AUTHORITY

Tel: 6325 8661
Fax: 6325 4437



DISTRIBUTION LIST

President
Singapore Institute of Architects
79 Neil Road
Singapore 088904
Fax: 62262663

President
Institution of Engineers, Singapore
70 Bukit Tinggi Road
Singapore 289758
Fax: 64671108

President
Association of Consulting Engineers, Singapore
70 Palmer Road #04-06
Singapore 079427
Fax: 63242581

President
Singapore Contractors Association Limited
Construction House
1 Bukit Merah Lane 2
Singapore 159760
Fax: 62733977

President
Real Estate Developers Association of Singapore
190 Clemenceau Avenue
#07-01 Singapore Shopping Centre
Singapore 239924
Fax: 63372217

Registrar
Professional Engineers Board, Singapore
5 Maxwell Road
1st Storey Tower Block MND Complex
Singapore 069110

Registrar
Board of Architects, Singapore
5 Maxwell Road
1st Storey Tower Block MND Complex
Singapore 069110

Bathroom that can be retrofitted for the elderly persons and wheelchair users

- 1 There shall be at least one bathroom in every residential unit that can be retrofitted for the elderly persons and wheelchair users when the need arises.
- 2 The bathroom shall be located at the same level as the entrance of the unit.
- 3 The width of the access route leading to the bathroom, or the room where the bathroom is, shall be 1000 mm minimum, subject to the provisions in Table A.
- 4 The doorway of the bathroom and the clear space in front of the doorway shall comply with the dimensions in Table A.

Table A

width of the doorway	Minimum corridor width perpendicular to the doorway
900 mm	1000 mm
850 mm	1100 mm
800 mm	1200 mm

- 5 There shall be an unobstructed space of not less than 1000 mm in diameter next to the doorway within the bathroom.
- 6 The change in level of the floor surface at the doorway of the bathroom shall not be more than 25 mm.
- 7 Provision shall be made for retrofitting the necessary grab bars in the bathroom in accordance with clause 4.3 of the Code on Barrier-Free Accessibility in Buildings.

Bathroom for future retrofitting sited in another room

- 8 If the bathroom for future retrofitting is accessed through another room, the clear opening of the doorway of the room shall comply with the minimum dimension specified in Table A.

Entrance to the unit

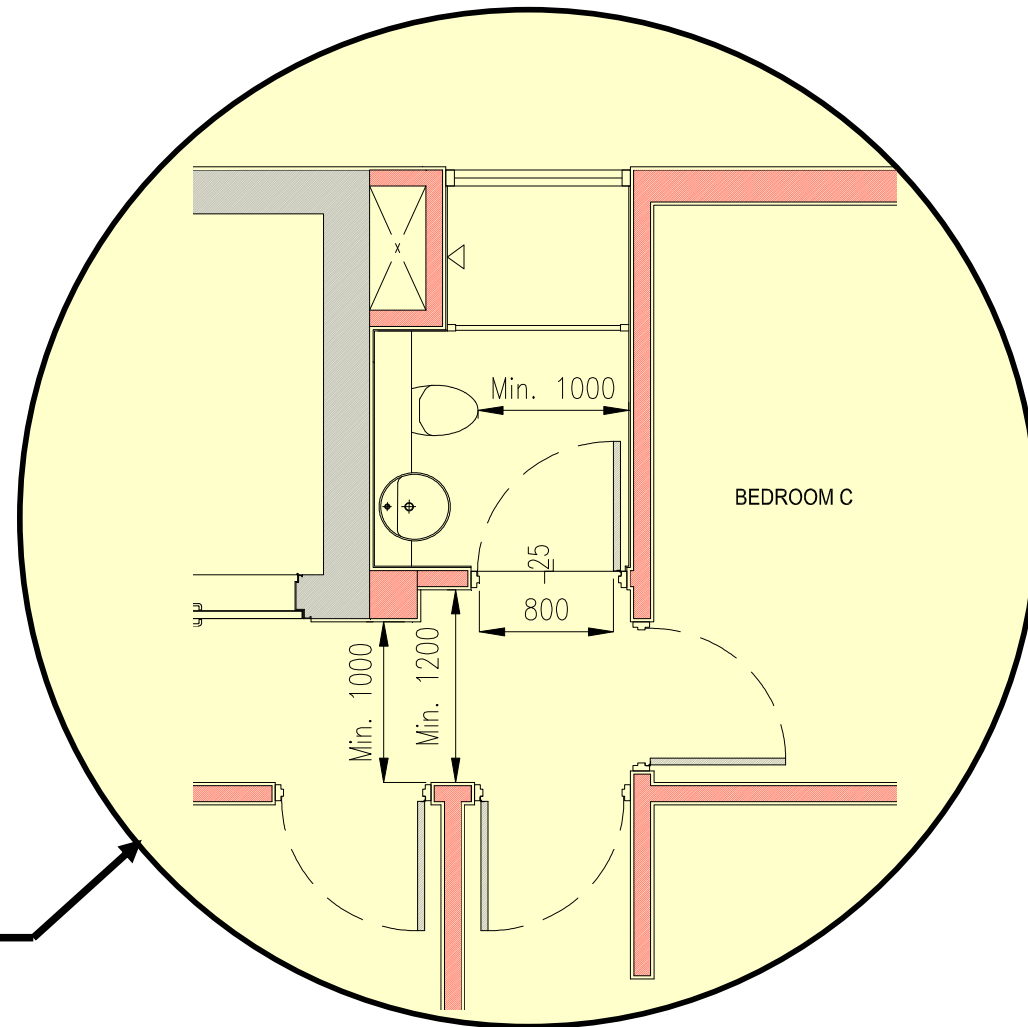
- 9 The difference in levels between the floor of the entrance to the unit and the abutting common area shall not be more than 50 mm.
- 10 The doorway of the entrance shall be 800 mm minimum for a single leaf door. If the doorway has two independently operated door leaves, at least one active leaf shall be 800 mm minimum.
- 11 The maneuvering space at the entrance shall be in accordance with clause 3.5.4 of the Code on Barrier-Free Accessibility in Buildings.

Switches and Socket Outlets

- 12 The switches and socket outlets shall be provided at a height of between 600mm and 1200mm from the finished floor level.

Appendix II

Minimum doorway (mm)	Corridor Width (mm)
900	1000
850	1100
800	1200



At 90° Turn to Bathroom