

Home modifications – A way to stay safe at home

Home modifications – Ensuring safety and independence

After a motor accident or workplace injury, returning home safely and independently is crucial. We can assist you by funding necessary changes to your home structure, layout, or fittings, known as 'home modifications', to support your needs.

Examples of home modifications

- adding ramps and rails
- widening doors
- adjusting cooking facilities, light switches, and taps
- installing equipment like shower seats
- altering room layouts, including bathrooms, bedrooms, and kitchens
- installing air conditioning for temperature regulation.

All modifications must be approved by us and be carried out by a registered builder.

Eligibility and assessment for home modifications

If you require modifications due to motor accident injuries, your icare contact will connect you with the icare Home Modifications Officer. They will engage a Building Modification Occupational Therapist (BMOT) and a Building Modification Project Manager (BMPM) to assess your needs and make recommendations.

Factors Considered in Assessment

- your mobility and safety within the home
- suitability of your home for modifications
- ownership or lease status and intended duration of stay
- scale and cost of modifications
- compliance with Australian Standards and regulations
- your preferences (additional costs may apply if unrelated to the accident).

After reviewing the feasibility report, we will make a decision about whether your home is able to be suitably modified and what home modifications can be funded.

Building Modifications Project Manager

A Building Modifications Project Manager, appointed by icare, oversees the process from start to finish. They will engage a builder based on the scope of modifications required.

Commencement of modifications

Initial modifications can begin before your return home, with more extensive work completed later if needed. If you can't reside at home during modifications, icare covers the cost of alternative accommodation until completion.

Duration of modifications

The time required depends on various factors such as the type and extent of modifications, agreement on plans, builder engagement, and regulatory approvals i.e. Local Council. Your involvement and prompt communication help expedite the process.

If your home can't be suitably modified


If your home cannot be suitably modified due to size, condition, design, or external factors, alternatives such as semi-detached units or relocation may be considered. Your Home Modifications Advisor will discuss feasible options with you.

Service agreements and contracts

For modifications exceeding \$20,000, a Capital Service Agreement is required by law, outlining entitlements, responsibilities, and maintenance details. Some modifications may necessitate a building contract, specifying work, rights, responsibilities, and payment terms, which your Home Modifications Officer will ensure is in place before work commences.

Further information

If your circumstances change or you'd like further information about home modifications, contact us through one of the options below. There is also information on our website.



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