



AFTER PICTURE – FRONT FAÇADE



BEFORE PICTURE 1 – View Of Front Porch.

***Explanation of Project***

These repeat customers wanted a wheelchair accessible space for their mother’s home in Kensington, Maryland. They wanted a handicapped bathroom and a wheelchair ramp to the front of the house. It was important that the bathroom was finished nicely, but of primary importance was that everything was functional and provided safety. They also wanted to keep within their original budget of \$55,000.

***Unusual Challenges/Constraints and Creative Solutions***

Their front yard is steeper than it looks and required several design iterations. We agreed on a plan that incorporates a wood ramp with safety railing that gradually slopes across the front yard to a landing and concrete walkway. We struggled with the design of the ramp so that we didn’t cut up the yard too badly. During this project we learned the precise distinctions between residential, commercial and assisted access incline codes (*See before & during pictures on the right*).

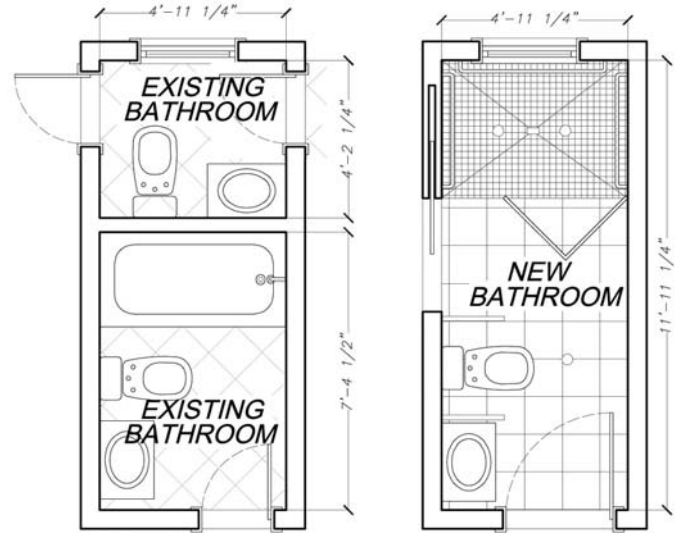


DURING PICTURE 2 – View Of Front Porch framing.



DURING PICTURE – View Of Ramp.

For the Universal access bathroom we combined a ½ bath and a full bathroom to provide adequate space for a wheelchair to maneuver (*See before picture & floor plans below*). The door was enlarged to 36” and an ADA toilet with grab bars and an ADA roll up sink complete the space. The shower was particularly challenging. Because of wheelchair access, it couldn’t have a curb top. A modest slope to the drain helped solve this problem. A double swinging custom glass shower door with fixed panel and grab bars kept water from pouring out of the shower while allowing wheelchair access and higher style than a simple shower curtain. Several grab bars around the shower provide an additional safety element. Good lighting and an exhaust fan with a heat lamp illuminate all of the very nice ceramic tile work in the bathroom.



**BEFORE & AFTER FLOOR PLANS.**

***Overall Results***

The homeowner’s day-to-day life has been greatly improved by having a wheelchair accessible ramp and bathroom. We were able to bring the project in within the budget and the homeowner is very happy with the quality of craftsmanship and the attention to detail (*See pictures below & next page*).



**BEFORE PICTURE – View Of ½ & Full Size Bathrooms To Be Combined.**



**AFTER PICTURE - Exterior view of accessible ramp.**



**AFTER PICTURE - Interior view of shower's grab bars.**