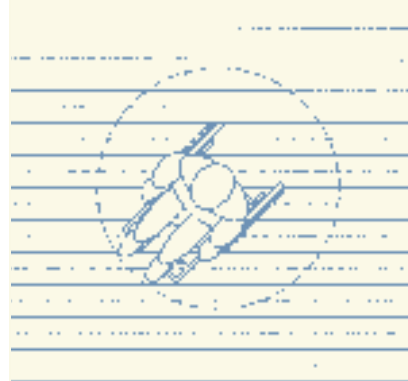




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Undertaking a **Construction**  
*Project*



# Undertaking a Construction Project



## Family Needs

The design of a successful residential accessibility project should meet the functional needs of all the family members, including the wheelchair user. For most projects a balanced design is achieved when it is based on the entire family's desires and requirements.

**M**OST BUYERS HAVE A WIDE range of housing choices that include existing homes and new models. Custom homes are another alternative, but design can be complicated and construction is more expensive. For wheelchair users who want to purchase a new home, very little accessible housing is available. In most instances your alternatives are either to build a custom home, purchase and renovate an existing property, or modify a “stock” builder plan before it is constructed. Sometimes unanticipated events result in the need for an accessible home. Rather than sell their home and move, these homeowners often prefer to modify their current residence to meet their new needs. To pursue any of these alternatives, you will participate in a construction project. For most people this is a new experience that can be confusing and intimidating. Before you begin, it is helpful to understand the design and construction process. The steps are the same whether you are building a complex custom home or modifying a room in your current home.