

## **Builder Tip**

Issue No: 25
Issued March 1999
Revised March 2015
Updated to 2012 Building Code
2 Pages

# GRAB BARS IN BARRIER-FREE WASHROOM STALLS

### **ONTARIO BUILDING CODE**

## 3.8 Barrier-Free Design

#### 3.8.3.8. Water Closet Stalls

- (3) Where a water closet is located in accordance with clause (2)(a),
  - (a) a grab bar conforming to sentences (5) and (7) shall be provided on the side wall referred to in Subclause (2)(a) (i),
  - (b) a fold down grab bar may be provided and, if one is provided, it shall conform to sentence (8) and be provided on the side of the water closet opposite the grab bar described in clause (s), and
  - (c) a grab bar conforming to sentences (6) and (7) shall be provided on the wall behind the water closet.
- (4) Where a water closet is located in accordance with Clause (2)(b),
  - (a) a fold down grab bar conforming to sentence (8) shall be provided on each side of the water closet, and
  - (b) a grab bar conforming to sentences (6) and (7) shall be provided on the wall behind the water closet.
- (5) A grab bar described in Clause (3)(a) shall,
  - (a) be continuous L-shaped with 750 mm long horizontal and vertical components, and
  - (b) be wall mounted with the horizontal component 750 mm above the finished floor and the vertical component 150 mm in front of the water closet. (See A-3.8.3.8.(3) and A-3.8.3.8. (5).
- (6) A grab bar described in Clause (3)(c) or (4)(b) shall,
  - (a) be at least 600 mm in length, and
  - (b) be wall mounted horizontally from 840 mm to 920 mm above the finished floor and, where the water closet has a water tank, be wall mounted 150 mm above the tank.

- (7) A grab bar described in Clause (3)(a) or (c) or (4) (b)shall,
  - (a) be installed to resist a load of at least 1.3 KN applied vertically or horizontally,
  - (b) be not less than 35 mm and not more than 40 mm diameter.
  - (c) have a clearance of not less than 38 mm and not more than 50 mm from the wall to the inside surface of the grab bar, and
  - (d) have a slip resistant surface.
- (8) A fold down grab bar described in Clause (3)(b) or (4)(a) shall,
  - (a) be mounted on the wall behind the water closet,
    - with the horizontal component 750 mm above the finished floor, and
    - ii. not less than 390 mm and not more than 410 mm from the centre line of the water closet, schedule
  - (b) not require a force of more than 22.2 N to pull it down,
  - (c) be at least 750 mm in length
  - (d) be installed to resist a load of at least 1.3 KN applied vertically or horizontally,
  - (e) be not less than 35 mm and not more than 40 mm in diameter, and
  - (f) have a slip resistant surface.
- (9) A fold down grab bar installed in accordance with sentence (8) is permitted to encroach into,
  - (a) The clear turning space described in Clause (1)(a), or
  - (b) A clear transfer space described in Subclause (2)(a)(ii) or Clause (2)(b).



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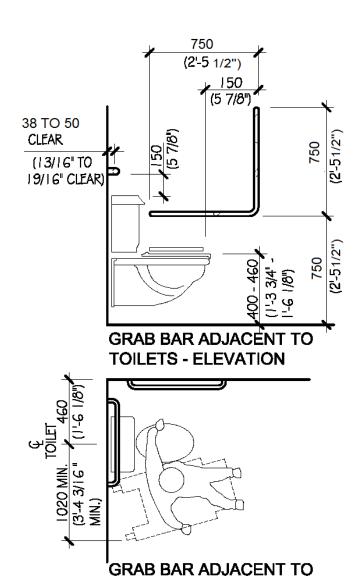
#### 3.8.3.12 Universal Toilet Rooms

- (1) A universal washroom room shall,
  - (d) Have one water closet conforming to Article 3.8.3.9. that is located in accordance with Clause 3.8.3.8. (2)(a) or (b).
  - (e) Have grab bars conforming to,
    - I. Sentence 3.8.3.8. (3), if the water closet is located in accordance with Clause 3.8.3.8. (2)(a), or
    - II. Sentence 3.8.3.8. (4), if the water closet is located in accordance with Clause 3.8.3.8. (2)(b),
  - (f) have no internal dimension between walls that is less than 1700 mm

### **OBJECTIVE**

There are different alternatives of grab bar arrangements that are suitable. The most suitable and preferred installation is a horizontal grab bar adjacent to the toilet.

The diagram to the right illustrates mounting heights and clearances



TOILETS - PLAN