



CAPS FAQs

What is CAPS?

CAPS is a designation program that is administered through the National Association of Home Builders' Remodelers' Council. NAHB is the country's largest home building association. The CAPS designation was created to address the needs of the aging-in-place market.

What is aging in place?

According to the Remodelers Council of the National Association of Home Builders, aging in place means "remaining in one's home safely, independently and comfortably, regardless of age or ability level. It means the pleasure of living in a familiar environment throughout one's maturing years and the ability to enjoy the familiar daily rituals and the special events that enrich all our lives. It means the reassurance of being able to call a house a "home" for a lifetime."

How does AIP affect me?

If you are like the majority of Americans over the age of 45, you want to continue living in a familiar environment throughout your maturing years.

According to AARP's "Fixing to Stay" study, published in 2000, consumers have three concerns:

1. How can I remain in my home for a lifetime
2. How can I find a reliable means of locating a contractor that is trained in aging in place
3. How to ensure I have a home in which friends and relatives can get around

Are there any modifications that I can do for myself?

1. Bright lighting
2. Contrasting colors
3. Safe slip-free bath mats

What are some modifications a trained professional might incorporate into my home?

Some modifications might include:

1. Lowering counter tops
2. Widening doors
3. Renovating or installing a full bath on the lower floor

Who can I rely on to modify my home?

The CAPS designation was created to address the needs of the aging-in-place market. CAPS Professionals have been taught the strategies and techniques for designing and building aesthetically enriching, barrier-free living environments.

CAPS coursework consists of three full days of instruction. The program requires that CAPS professionals maintain the designation through earning continuing education and adhere to the CAPS code of ethics.