[](https://www.amazon.com/Who-Will-Take-Care-When/dp/0738219630/ref=sr_1_1?ie=UTF8&qid=1490187548&sr=8-1&keywords=who+will+take+care+of+me+when+i'm+old)

**AGE-FRIENDLY HOME CHECKLIST**

***Who Will Take Care of Me When I’m Old?***

Changes—big and small—can happen at any time. Use this guide to get clearer about the big picture and to ease into the transition process.

With a fervent desire to age in your current home, you may be tempted to review the following list under the illusion of wishful thinking. If that’s the case, you are shooting yourself in the foot, not to mention risking living in a potentially hazardous home environment.

Be truthful; then, decide to fix what needs adjusting. If you really want to age in place, the following information dictates what is necessary to make that happen.

**SAFETY**

* Smoke and carbon monoxide detectors are installed and working properly.
* Handrails and balance bars are installed in bathroom and both sides of long hallways.
* Heat and air-conditioning systems are in working order and easy to operate.
* Protective coverings from the sun are installed in outdoor seating areas.
* A trusted neighbor has the keys to your home and knows gate codes in the event of an emergency.

**FLOORING**

* Area rugs and runners throughout the house are removed.
* Low-pile carpeting (or no carpeting) averts falls.
* Floor surfaces and stairways are slip-resistant.
* Floors, hallways, and stairwells are clear of clutter.

**LIGHTING**

* Bright, functional lighting is installed throughout the house and all entrances.
* Nightlights are installed in hallways, bedrooms, bathrooms, and the kitchen.
* Light switches (preferably flat-panel) are available at all room entrances.

**FUNCTION**

* Lever handles replace knobs on doors and faucets.
* Appliances and work-surface heights are adjusted for easy use.
* Bathroom sink vanities and mirrors are easily accessible.
* Walk-in shower and shower seating is installed.
* Elevated toilet seat is installed.
* Walk-in closet with clothes racks at reachable heights is available.
* Remote-control window blinds and curtains installed.

**COMMUNICATIONS**

* Telephone access is available throughout the house.
* Wi-Fi access throughout the house.
* Emergency medical alert system in place.

**ACCESSIBILITY**

* Ample electric outlets and light switches are within easy reach.
* No-step entry and thresholds installed at house entrances and interior doorways.
* Steps to bedrooms, kitchen, bathrooms, laundry room, and living room are eliminated.
* Wide corridors and doorways accommodate wheelchairs and motorized scooters.
* Wheelchair-accessible rooms, especially bathrooms, are available.