

Church Accessibility Checklist

The Church Accessibility Checklist is intended to be used as an introductory tool for churches wanting to reflect on disability access and inclusion in their built environment.

CBM Luke14 recommends that people with disabilities in your congregation are involved in this process and any changes to your church identified as a result of completing this checklist are in consultation with an accredited access consultant and registered/licensed builder.

Church access		Yes	No
1	Is at least one major entrance to the building accessible by wheelchair users?		
2	Is it possible to get from a parked car to the area used for worship without going up or down a step or stairs?		
3	Is there a flat area to get in and out a car (ideally 5.4m long x 4.8m wide)?		
4	Is the slope of paths not greater than 5% (roughly 1:20)?		
5	Are ground surfaces slip-resistant?		
Ramps and stairs			
6	Do ramps have a slope no greater than 1:14 and a width of no less than 1m?		
7	Do ramps have handrails and kerb rails on both sides? Are they firm and rigid?		
8	Do handrails extend horizontally at the top and bottom of stairs and ramps?		
9	Are there tactile ground surface indicators at the top and bottom of ramps and stairs, warning those with low vision?		
10	Does each step have a nosing of contrasting colour to the step?		
Doors and doorways			
11	Do doors have a clear opening of 850mm or more?		
12	Can doors be opened easily by a person with a disability?		
13	Is there clear space either side of the door (to enable the person to get close to the door to open it)?		
14	Are doorways (door and/or door frame/architrave) a contrasting colour to the wall around them?		
15	Do full height windows have a solid horizontal strip across their width to distinguish them from an open doorway?		
16	Are door handles located between 900-1100mm above the floor?		

Floors			
17	Is the floor level each side of doors?		
18	Are the door thresholds a maximum 3mm high (or a ramp provided for a threshold up to 35mm high)?		
19	Are floor surfaces slip-resistant?		
Worship space			
20	Can the service be heard clearly throughout?		
21	Is there hearing augmentation for hearing aid users?		
22	Is there good lighting, avoiding shadows on those speaking or interpreting?		
23	If a data projector is used, are there large print paper copies available for people who cannot see the screen?		
24	Is there space for wheelchair users where they can sit with family or a friend?		
25	Are there seats with arms, and seats with extra legroom for people with mobility impairment?		
26	Can people take communion without climbing steps?		
Toilets			
27	Is there an accessible toilet?		
28	Is the space clear of obstacles (e.g., bins and baby change tables)?		
29	Are there male and female ambulant toilets?		
30	Is there clear signage to direct you to toilets?		
31	Does signage include braille and raised letters and symbols?		
Other areas			
32	Can people with a disability access tea and coffee or other refreshments?		
33	Are there designated quiet spaces for people that require them?		

For comprehensive accessibility information and advice for your church please consult an accredited access consultant. The [Association of Consultants in Access Australia](#) is a national association of members who can provide specific audit services and advice in accessibility for people with a disability in built environments.

What is Luke14?

Luke14 is a CBM Australia initiative *guiding churches to disability inclusion and beyond, creating spaces and communities built for belonging*. Luke14 is an ecumenical initiative that has been running for over 10 years, equipping churches across Australia to be more inclusive of people with disabilities.

Qualities

- *Biblically based*: A robust theological program base to motivate, educate and enable disability inclusion.
- *Motivating*: Realistic, useful and digestible resources and messaging that empowers advocates and church leaders.
- *Actionable*: Help people understand how to take what they learn from Luke14 and make change at church.
- *'Nothing About Us, Without Us'*: This slogan from the disability movement means people with disabilities are central in making decisions at all levels of Luke14.

Find out more

Find out more about Luke14 at www.cbm.org.au/luke14