



HABINTEG
Disability Equality Centre

Portable and temporary ramps.

The duty of reasonable adjustment is a cornerstone to the Disability Discrimination Act 1995 (DDA) and requires service providers to take positive steps to make their services accessible to disabled people. Since October 1999 service providers have had to overcome physical features, which make it impossible or unreasonably difficult for disabled people to use a service, by providing a service by a reasonable alternative method. By 1 October 2004 service providers will have to take reasonable steps to remove, alter or provide a reasonable means of avoiding physical features that make it impossible or unreasonably difficult for disabled people to use a service.

Ramps are essential for wheelchair users, and useful for people with pushchairs, where access is required to different levels. However, a ramp can present difficulties for ambulant disabled people which can be addressed by having both ramp and stepped access. Building regulations and planning permission must be observed when considering a temporary or permanent ramp and it is essential to seek expert guidance on the design and installation of a ramp.

Portable and temporary ramps are not intended to be used in place of permanent ramps in existing buildings, unless a permanent ramp cannot be installed in a particular situation (i.e. in certain listed buildings). Any new buildings should be designed with full access.

Sources of advice on access:

Centre for Accessible Environments (CAE), Nutmeg House,
60 Gainsford Street, London SE1 2NY
Telephone/Textphone: 020 7357 8182



Head Office:
Holyer House, 20-21 Red Lion Court, London, EC4 3EB.
Tel: 020 7822 8700
Fax: 020 7822 7001
E-mail: hdec@habinteg.org.uk
Website: www.habintegdec.org.uk



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Fax: 020 7357 8183

email: info@cae.org.uk

website: www.cae.org.uk

- their design fact sheet on ramps includes details of manufacturers and suppliers of ramps

Dickinson Associates, 17 Coopies Haugh, Coopies Lane, Morpeth,
Northumberland NE61 1QD

Telephone: 01670 505600

Fax: 01670 505700

email: info@dickinsonassociates.co.uk

website: www.dickinsonassociates.co.uk

Employers' Forum on Disability (EFD), Nutmeg House,
60 Gainsford Street, London SE1 2NY

Telephone/Textphone: 020 7403 3020

Fax: 020 7403 0404

email: efd@employers-forum.co.uk

website: www.employers-forum.co.uk

- their publication Customer Action File 3 - Customer Access - Policy, Technical Aids and Buildings: The 'Triple Audit', focuses on physical access issues and the duties of the Disability Discrimination Act 1995 (DDA) in 2004

English Heritage, 23 Saville Row, London W1

Telephone: 020 7973 3000

Fax: 01793 414910

website: www.english-heritage.org.uk

- 'Easy Access to Historic Properties' covers access issues for listed buildings

Royal Association for Disability And Rehabilitation (RADAR),

12 City Forum, 250 City Road, London EC1V 8AF



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Telephone: 020 7250 3222

Textphone: 020 7250 4119

Fax: 020 7250 0212

email: radar@radar.org.uk

website: www.radar.org.uk

- many useful links via their website

Details of manufacturers and suppliers of ramps can be obtained from sources such as:

Disabled Living Foundation (DLF) Helpline

Telephone: 0845 130 9177

Textphone: 020 7432 8009

website: www.dlf.org.uk

- range of useful fact sheets on their website

If you require this information in an alternative format, please contact Habinteg at hdec@habinteg.org.uk.



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