

Principles of Universal Design

The Center for Universal Design (1997) lists the following principles of universal design:

Principle One: Equitable Use: The design is useful and marketable to people with diverse abilities

Principle Two: Flexibility in Use: The design accommodates a wide range of individual preferences and abilities

Principle Three: Simple and Intuitive Use: Use of the design is easy to understand, regardless of the user's experience, knowledge, language skills, or current concentration level.

Principle Four: Perceptible Information: The design communicates necessary information effectively to the user, regardless of ambient conditions or the user's sensory abilities.

Principle Five: Tolerance for Error: The design minimizes hazards and the adverse consequences of accidental or unintended actions.

Principle Six: Low Physical Effort: The design can be used efficiently and comfortably and with a minimum of fatigue.

Principle Seven: Size and Space for Approach and Use: Appropriate size and space is provided for approach, reach, manipulation, and use regardless of user's body size, posture, or mobility.

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