



Housing

Whether you own or rent your home, think about how your housing needs may change as you age. Consider if your home and its location are suitable for you to remain independent and age in place. “Aging in place” means staying in your own home and community as you get older. To do so, you may need to make changes to your home, or you might want to consider downsizing, or moving to a location closer to shops and/or transportation services.

Questions to think about when planning for your future housing needs:

Can your current home be adapted to suit your future needs? It’s important to assess whether your home will allow you to age in place, or if you will need to invest in significant home modifications, such as putting in a new bathroom, or widening halls and doorways.

Did you know that you can apply for a Seniors' Home Renovation Tax Credit? This is a refundable personal income tax credit to assist individuals aged 65 and over with the cost of certain permanent home renovations.

How will you maintain your home if you need help?

Is your home too big?

How accessible and safe is your home for independent living? Think about potential tripping hazards, lots of steps, or how close your nearest neighbour is.

Would it be best to downsize now? Often this decision is left until an emergency forces the older adult out of the home. In this situation, s/he no longer has the luxury of time to sort through belongings, or find the best available accommodation.

What services are available in your community to help you with daily activities such as shopping, housework, yard work or snow shoveling?

What are the housing options for seniors in your community?

Are you within walking distance to shops, services and the community supports you need?
Many older adults outlive their driving ability by seven to 10 years.

How age-friendly is your community? Consider if your community will serve your needs as you age.

- [Housing](#) (link)
- [BC Seniors' Home Renovation Tax Credit](#) (link)
- [Home and Community Care](#) (link)
- [Better at Home](#) (link)
- [Age-friendly BC](#) (link)
- [Planning for Healthy Aging](#) (link)