

FHA Requirements

for Future Placement of Grab Bars



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The FHA Design Manual sets out design and construction standards for accessible features in covered multifamily dwellings to ensure that people with disabilities have equal access to housing. Requirement 6 specifically addresses Reinforced Walls for Grab bars:

"...covered multifamily dwellings with a building entrance on an accessible route shall be designed and constructed in such manner that all premises within covered multifamily dwelling units contain reinforcements in bathroom walls to allow later installation of grab bars around toilet, tub, shower stall and shower seat, where such facilities are provided."

– Fair Housing Act Regulations, 24 CFR 100.205

What Works:

Units that can be backed for the future placement of ANY manufacturers' grab bars – this requires a smooth, level and flat reinforcement area across the entire back as shown here.



Unlike the competitors, American Bath Group and its family of brands can provide units with smooth, flat backs with reinforcement for future grab bar placement, ensuring that FHA requirements are met every time for every project. Contact your Specification and Code Expert today.

What Does Not Work:

Units with walls that are molded with curves and/or ribbing or those that have unique designs that would not accommodate continuous backing like the model below.



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