FACILITIES FOR DISABLED PERSONS

The following facilities are to be provided for Disabled people, should the National Building Regulations and Building Standards Act of 1977 require the facilities to be provided in any building.

Ramps for wheelchairs

- With a gradient of **1:12**, where the difference in level of the ends of the ramp is **greater than 400 mm**; or
- **1:10**, where such difference in level **does not exceed 400 mm**.
- Must have a clear trafficable surface **not less than 1,1 m wide**.
- Surface must be of a **non-slip material**.
- A landing is to be provided **for every 1,5 m of vertical rise, not less than 1,2 m** in length and the same width as the ramp.
- At entrance doors, the ramps surface should be level with a **minimum length of 2 m** if the door opens towards the ramp, and **1,8 m** if the door opens away from the ramp.
- A handrail on the side should be provided if the change between the ends of the ramp is **greater than 600 mm**, and should be positioned **between 850 mm and 1m** above the surface of such ramp, and is to follow the gradient of the ramp.
- The camber on ramps shall not exceed **1:40**.

![Ramp for wheelchairs with a camber](image)
Parking Bays

- Where provision has been made within or outside any building for the parking of **more than 50** motor vehicles, **at least one space per 200** or part thereof of the total number of parking spaces shall be provided for the parking of disabled persons, and shall be of **approved length**, not less than **3,5m in width**, on a **level surface**, and be **located as near as possible** to the entrance of such building. These parking bays are to be **clearly demarcated** as being intended for the use of disabled persons. A vertical sign incorporating the international symbol for access by disabled people, and a sign indicating **“No Parking Except For Disabled Persons”** shall identify parking spaces.

Doorways

- Doorways designed for use by disabled people shall allow free access for wheelchairs. The clear opening shall be at least **750 mm**.

![Doorway opening for the disabled](image)

Toilet facilities

- For **every 20 toilet** compartments, which would have to include urinals, that are provided, **1 toilet** compartment for the disabled shall be provided, with minimum internal dimensions of **1,7 m by 1,8 m**. Disabled toilets are the only toilet facilities that operate as **“dual sex”** toilets i.e. a male may have to assist a disabled female in the toilet or vice versa.
The diagrams below indicate the minimum dimensions for disabled toilets and shower facilities, including doorways.

Layout of a disabled toilet facility
Minimum dimensions for a disabled WC and shower
SLIDING DOOR FOR DISABLED TOILET

Dimensions in millimetres

150 mm long pull handles on both sides—swing-over indicator bolt and emergency release from outside

Sliding door open
Protection plate
Sliding door closed
Dimensions in millimetres

150 mm long lever-type door handle-swing-over indicator bolt and emergency release from outside

Hinged door pull handle

Protection plate

HINGED DOOR FOR DISABLED TOILETS
Indication of existence of facilities

- Where facilities for the disabled have been provided, the existence and location shall be indicated, both outside and inside the building. All signage shall comply with international standards.

Refer to **SABS CODE of PRACTICE 0246 – 1993** for further details on provision of disabled sanitary facilities.