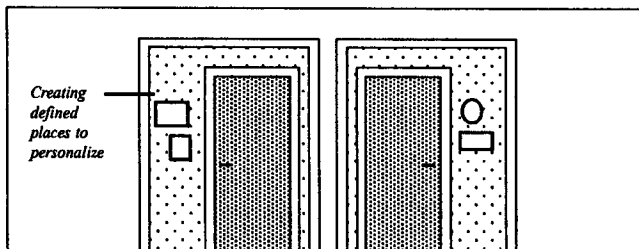


# DESIGN GUIDELINES

## DESIGN GUIDES

Based upon this exploratory research, the following preliminary design guidelines have been created.

### CREATING AN EDGE



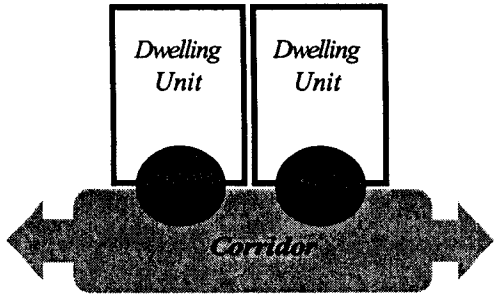
#### Criteria

Frequently, the use of the doorway for personalization was impeded because a clear boundary between the area that is public and the resident's semi-public zone did not exist. Doorway areas should have a clear demarcation of what areas are under the resident's control. Furthermore, having a clear boundary helps to reinforce community policies on the use of public areas.

#### Design Response

Clear boundaries are inherent in most recessed alcoves, but should be enhanced in places where alcoves are shared with other doorways. This can be done with a different wall treatment or moldings. This same tactic can be used in hallway style doorways, which lack any defined space for personalization. Moldings could be used to create a defined area around the doorway. Using different colored paint within the bounded area could also further separate this area. Residents should then be informed they are welcome to personalize this defined area on the wall. At the same time, residents should be cautioned not to hang any items which protrude more than four inches from the wall that might create a potential hazard.

## POSITIVE SPACE



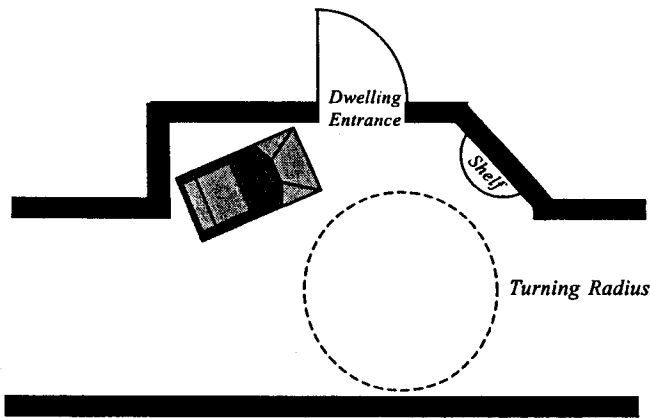
### Criteria

When a recessed alcove is provided for the resident's use, the design should be configured to provide maximum usability. These entranceways should be large enough to be distinctive, and not be impeded upon by door swings. As private living areas are compressed in size, particularly in assisted living, this zone becomes very critical in establishing a sense of ownership and privacy.

### Design Response

Larger alcove sizes, which create a clear, separate zone, are encouraged in assisted living settings with small studio apartments. While apartment settings are more likely to have a foyer, which separates public and private areas inside the unit, larger entry alcoves are also encouraged in these settings. The larger alcoves provide more opportunities for a variety of uses such as the display of heirloom furniture. Moreover, larger alcoves provide more opportunities for residents to express their individuality. If space is restricted, then a narrow shelf should be provided at a minimum.

## PARKING PLACES



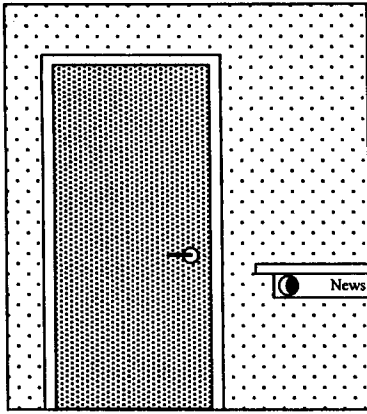
### Criteria

As residents age in place, assistive mobility devices may become a necessity. These devices can range from as small as a cane to as large as a four-wheel electric scooter. Residents may not need these items inside their unit and may primarily use them to assist with trips to the common spaces in the community building. Furthermore, dwelling units do not always provide a convenient place for residents to place these devices. Thus, doorway alcoves become the frequent parking places for walkers, rollators, and scooters.

### Design Response

Alcoves should be designed to accommodate the parking of electric scooters whenever residents are expected to travel long distances to get to common areas. The average space needed to park a scooter is twenty inches wide by forty-eight inches deep. It may be acceptable for some portion of the scooter to intrude upon the hallway. To support scooters, hallways must also be wide enough for resident to complete a turn. If a scooter is used there still should be some place for residents to place personal items in the doorway such as a shelf. Additionally, residents will still need a shelf for findings keys and receiving the newspaper, etc. A resident should not have to give up identity and function for an assistive device.

## THE PACKAGE SHELF



### Criteria

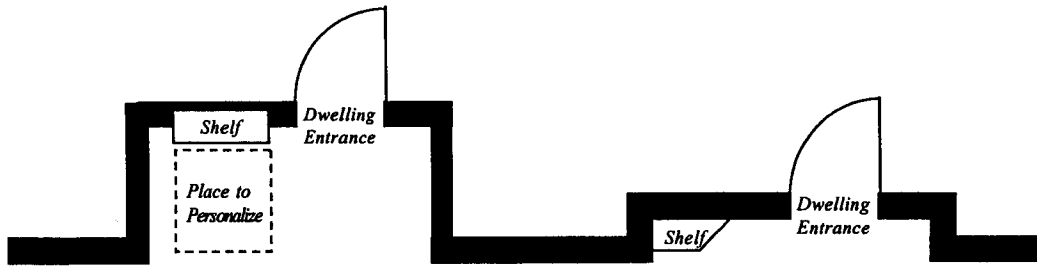
Physical changes that occur to a person as they age often limit the ability to bend over and retrieve items placed on the floor. An entryway should provide or facilitate creating a place for residents to conveniently accept regular deliveries. The entranceway should also provide or facilitate creating a temporary resting-place for items while searching for keys.

### Design Response

Newspapers and community newsletters are frequently delivered to the resident door. The doorway areas should provide some type of receptacle for receiving these papers. Newspaper delivery should be accommodated in both apartment settings and in assisted living settings.

A temporary resting-place for packages should also be incorporated as a minimum treatment for the unit's edge. If a convenience shelf is provided in the entranceway, the preferred location for the shelf is adjacent to the doorknob. If additional space is provided to accommodate a piece of furniture for this purpose, the preferred location is also adjacent to the doorknob.

## ARCHITECTURAL FEATURES



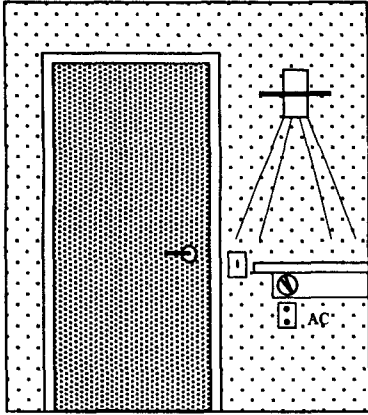
### Criteria

Architectural features such as a shelf are not only convenient, but also provides a means for display. When both space and a shelf are provided the maximum amount of personalization can occur, particularly in assisted living settings.

### Design Response

If doorway alcoves are compressed to being less than eighteen inches deep they should include some type of shelf. In assisted living, a shelf as well as space should be provided, so residents can easily create a display without always depending upon the assistance of others.

## LIGHTING AND OUTLETS



### Criteria

A part of the aging process is a reduction in vision. Older people are known to need increased lighting levels to see as clearly as a person who is younger; therefore, alcoves need to have adequate lighting. Many current residents, who experienced the Great Depression, do not like wasting electricity, and therefore do not want to leave the light on for such a temporary need. Thus, the placement of the light switch and the placement of electric outlets should be carefully considered to address these issues. Additionally, electric scooters need to be recharged, and require an outlet near their parking places.

### Design Response

Lighting in the alcoves should be under the resident's control. When light switches are provided outside the door, a resident can flip the light switch on to momentarily illuminate the area when it is needed rather than always leaving the light on. A three-way switch is also preferred, so residents can also flip on the light inside the unit and screen any visitor through the peephole. The switch should be within easy reach and not be located in the center of an important area to personalize. Providing an electric outlet in the alcove for residents to install lamps, other electric features and to recharge electric scooters is desirable. Outlets should be accessibly located between twenty-four inches and thirty-six inches above the floor.