Universal Design Project Guidelines

Use the following step-by-step guidelines to help you create a communication, product or environment according to the principles of universal design.

1. Brainstorm ideas for your project. Write each idea in the correct column of the table. An example of each of the three categories can help you get started. Be sure to include in your lists products that you use regularly but probably don’t think about in terms of universal design. For example, what would a smart phone or iPad be like if you were to make it according to the principles of universal design?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Communication</th>
<th>Product</th>
<th>Environment</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>City signs pointing to various visitors' destinations</td>
<td>Door handles, rather than knobs, that are easy to use</td>
<td>Bathroom with enough space for a wheelchair to move easily</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
2. Choose the item you want to design.

3. Use the Seven Principles of Universal Design to guide your planning. Use a highlighter to mark the principle(s) that your project will use. In the space below, write how your product will use that principle.

1. Equitable Use

2. Flexibility in Use

3. Simple and Intuitive Use

4. Perceptible Information

5. Tolerance for Error

6. Low Physical Effort

7. Size and Space for Approach and Use

4. Go online and do some background research. See if others have created something similar to what you're designing. In the space below, list the Websites you have found most useful.
5. Update your list (#3) to reflect any new information you find.

6. Prepare a presentation of your universal design project. The presentation can be a poster, a PowerPoint slideshow, a video, a Web page or any other format you think would most effectively communicate your ideas.

Your presentation should include:
• Visual image(s) of the standard design that your product, environment or communication would replace
• Visual image(s) of your product, environment or communication
• Explanation of how your design improves on the one currently in use
• Explanations of how your project reflects one or more of the seven principles of universal design