



**Summary of Substantive Changes  
between the 2004 and the 2012 editions of  
CSA B651, “Accessible Design for the Built Environment”**

**Presented to the IAPMO Standards Review Committee on August 13, 2012**

**General:** The changes to this standard may affect currently listed products. The changes to this standard with respect to plumbing systems are reported in this summary. The clauses relating to plumbing systems included in this review are Clauses: 6.1, Drinking fountains, 6.2, Washroom facilities, 6.3, Universal washrooms, 6.5, Bathing Facilities, 7.3.4, Washrooms, 7.4.3, Bathrooms, and 7.4.4, Kitchens. The major changes are:

- The maximum water temperature requirement was changed from 55 °C to 49 °C (Clauses 6.2.3 and 6.5.1)
- Added the option of 300 mm grab bars located on either side of flush valves (Clause 6.2.6.4)
- Added a new clause with the requirements for toilet stalls for users with limited mobility (Clause 6.2.7.2)
- Revised the universal washroom identification requirements (Clause 6.3.1)
- The clear floor area in front of the shower entrance was changed to 900 × 1500 mm from 900 × 1200 mm (Clause 6.5.5.2)
- Removed the height requirement for refrigerator space and controls (Clause 7.4.4.8)

Clause 6.2.3 Lavatories: Formerly clause 4.3.3;

Clause 6.2.3.3 Faucets: Revised the requirements of lavatory faucet controls as follows:

*Faucets and other controls shall*

~~*(a) be automatically activated (see Figure 37); or*~~

~~*(b) have lever-type handles that*~~

~~*(i) comply with Clause 3.2.3;*~~

~~*(ii) are at least 75 mm long from the centre of rotation to the handle tip; and*~~

~~*(iii) are not spring-loaded*~~

*(a) comply with Clause 4.2;*

*(b) not require the application of continuous force to maintain water flow;*

*(c) where metered, provide at least 10 s of flow; and*

*(d) where handles are used, have lever-type handles that are operable with a closed fist (see Figure 41).*

Clause 6.2.3.4, Water temperature: The maximum water temperature requirement was changed from 55°C to 49°C as follows:

*The temperature of the water supplied to the lavatory shall not exceed 49 °C.*

~~*(a) be thermostatically controlled; and*~~

~~*(b) not exceed 55 °C.*~~



Clause 6.2.6, Toilets: Formerly Clause 4.3.6;

6.2.6.4 Grab bars: Added the following option to locate grab bars on either side of the flush valve as follows:

*(b) on the rear wall, either*

*(i) one, centered with the toilet and at least 600 mm long (see Figures 43 and 44); or*

*(ii) two, each at least 300 mm long positioned on either side of the flush valve, located not further than 50 mm from the flush valve.*

Clause 6.2.7, Toilet stalls: Formerly clause 4.3.7

Clause 6.2.7.1.2: Clarified the clear area requirements as follows:

*(h) have a clear area at least 1500 × 1500 mm in front of the stall that complies with ~~Clause 4.1.3.2~~ Clause 5.2.2 (see Figure 39).*

Clause 6.2.7.2, Toilet stalls for users with limited mobility: Added this clause and added the requirements of toilet stall for users with limited mobility.

Clause 6.3, Universal washrooms: Formerly Clause 4.3.9, Individual washrooms

Clause 6.3.1, General: Clarified the clear area and revised the universal washroom identification requirements as follows:

*(c) provide a clear area of at least 1500 × 1500 mm;*

~~*(d) a door that*~~

~~*(i) complies with Clause 4.1.3; and*~~

~~*(ii) can be unlocked from the outside in emergency conditions (see Figure 42).*~~

*(f) be identified by a sign that*

*(i) complies with Clause 4.5.6; and*

*(ii) shows a male and female pictogram and the International symbol of access (see Figures 11 and 12).*

Clause 6.3.2, Washroom door: This clause and title are new and the following requirements were added;  
*A door to a universal washroom shall*

*(b) have a locking mechanism on the inside that complies with Clause 4.2.4;*

*(d) have either a*

*(i) closer, spring-type or gravity hinge; or*

*(ii) D-type pull at least 140 mm long, mounted horizontally on the inside of an out-swinging door with its centerline located between 200 and 300 mm from the hinge edge, and at a height between 800 and 1000 mm from the floor (see Figure 44).*

Clause 6.4, Change benches: Added this clause and the requirements changing benches.

Clause 6.5, Bathing facilities: Formerly Clause 4.4

6.5.1 Water temperature: The maximum water temperature requirement was changed from 55°C to 49°C and the required method of control was removed as follows:

*The temperature of the water supplied to the shower or bathtub shall*

~~*(a) not exceed 55°C;*~~ *49 °C.*

~~*(b) be controlled*~~



- (i) thermostatically; or*
- (ii) by a pressure-equalizing valve.*

Clause 6.5.2, Showerheads: Defined the range of the adjustable shower height as follows  
A showerhead shall;

*(i) to be adjustable between 1200 and 2030 mm from the floor ~~and upward~~;*

Clause 6.5.5.2, Access area: Changed the required clear floor area as follows:

*A clear floor area in front of the shower entrance shall be at least 900 × ~~1200~~ 1500 mm, with the ~~1200~~ 1500 mm dimension parallel to the shower entrance (see Figure 49).*

Figure 42, Washroom accessory heights: Added the location of a soap dispenser and included call-outs for the dispenser and hand dryer.

Figure 49, Roll-in shower stall: Revised to include offset dimensions for grab bars.