



3 Housing Options That Can Help You Care for Senior Loved Ones

They say that home is where the heart is, though home is really where you feel safe. That's an important element for any individual, but it's especially important for older adults who may need extra care. Seniors have a variety of options when it comes to choosing a home that will give them that extra compassion and care they deserve, so here are a few suggestions to help caregivers and/or family make the right choice.

Assisted Living Can Be a Welcome Move for Seniors

Seniors tend to need more care as they get older, but that doesn't automatically mean moving into a nursing home. For seniors who need just a little daily help and maybe want the option to mingle with other seniors, assisted living may actually be an exciting choice. Rather than provide the intensive care that nursing homes provide, these facilities are usually set up more like apartments or small communities, where residents can enjoy independence and social outlets

while getting the help they need with activities of daily living. Keep this in mind as you look at local facilities, and also keep pricing in mind as well. Make a point to tour each prospect with your senior and do your homework to determine how your loved one will cover the monthly cost. Remember that, as Verywell Health notes, [Medicare does not cover](#) assisted living, so you will likely need to find a way to pay out of pocket to make assisted living work.

A More Manageable Home Can Help Seniors Age in Place

Needing a little more care doesn't have to mean moving to assisted living. For older adults who just find their current home too much to deal with, [buying a new](#), smaller one that's within their [price range](#) could be a wise move. If this feels like the right choice for your loved one, help them find a home that will be easier to manage and that has features that increase accessibility. Those features include skid-resistant flooring, one-story living and easy access to the resources your senior needs to live comfortably.

Finding that sort of home on your own can be a challenge, so look for a local realtor who can help. You may want to look for agents with [the SRES designation](#), which means they have specialty training to better provide services to seniors. These pros may even be able to point out needs you haven't thought of, to find a home that is truly perfect for your loved one to age in place. Once you have a new home picked out, you can use [a senior move planner](#) to help ease the transition.

Home Modifications May Also Make Sense for Many Seniors

For some seniors, even moving to a new home can be too much. After all, it can be difficult to give up a home that's filled with so many memories and feels so comfortable. With simple [aging-in-place modifications](#), seniors don't have to give up the homes they love. Work room by room to minimize safety hazards, like slippery bathroom floors and uneven lighting in living spaces.

Making small changes, like having grab bars installed near the shower or brighter lighting placed in each room, can make a home much safer and more comfortable for an older adult. You can also opt for smart lighting, one of several [smart home elements](#) that can make aging in place easier for more adults. These upgrades do not come without costs though, so you should also make sure the [financial resources](#) are there to help you cover these expenses.

It's important for seniors to have access to the care they need. It's equally important for them to feel safe, loved and comfortable in their home. So use the information above to find a home for your aging loved one that fits this criteria and care that fits any special needs as well.

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The [Association of Senior Service Providers](#) is dedicated to supporting quality of life for seniors. For more information on membership, events, news and more, connect today!