

Journalist's Query:

1. How do walk-in tubs work? (Keep in mind that readers are probably not plumbing-savvy, so just a general and simple explanation works great) 2. Please provide three (3) unbiased recommendations for walk-in tub products. For each one, include the specific product link and explain what you like about it. Possible features to mention include: - stand-out safety features - ergonomic design - aesthetics - cost - product comes with services, like in-home consultation

Subject of Email:

Is a step in shower an option for aging in place?

Pitch:

A walk-in tub has a door so that getting into the tub doesn't require a high step up and over the threshold, which makes it much safer for seniors that are aging in place. The door creates a watertight seal once you are inside so that the tub may be filled. In addition, walk-in tubs have very high walls and an elevated seat so it is not required to sit down at floor level to be beneath the water.

When we are performing renovations for those who are aging in place, and they are considering a walk-in tub, we also talk to them about a step in shower. Non slip flooring, safety rails, and comfortable seating may still be installed in a step in shower. It can be built to have no threshold to step over going into the shower, tile is continuous throughout the bathroom, and there is no waiting for the tub to drain before being able to open the door and dry off.

<https://www.homedepot.com/p/Universal-Tubs-HD-Series-60-in-Left-Drain-Quick-Fill-Walk-In-Whirlpool-Bath-Tub-with-Powered-Fast-Drain-in-White-HD3060WILWH/100665403>

This Universal Tub has a number of features. The drain is powered by a pump, removing all water in about a minute. It also has a quick fill faucet and buttons that are designed to reduce stress on fingers and joints.

<https://www.homedepot.com/p/American-Standard-Gelcoat-Premium-Series-52-in-Right-Hand-Walk-In-Air-Bathtub-in-White-3052-109-ARW/300984335>

The stand out feature of this Gelcoat tub is the neck rest. Of course, it also has a quick draining system so you are not stuck waiting several minutes to open the door. The door seal has a lifetime warranty, and the floor is non slip.

<https://www.homedepot.com/p/Universal-Tubs-Builder-s-Choice-53-in-Left-Drain-Quick-Fill-Walk-In-Showering-Bath-Tub-in-White-B2653LWS/203818753>

This is a very safe, and affordable tub without all the bells and whistles. It still has a slip resistant floor, safety rail, and a low step in threshold. If you don't need a whirlpool or powered drain features, this tub performs well at a lower cost.